

COMMENT OF  
THE DAY

Civic Association  
Enters Politics

THE Civic Association has decided to throw its hat into the local political arena. It is an interesting but not surprising development. It might almost be described as evolutionary. During its first 14 months of existence the Association has contented itself with quiet, behind-the-scenes activities, surveys and investigations touching on matters affecting the welfare of the general public and through memoranda to Government and releases to the newspapers has kept officialdom and the community acquainted with its activities and its opinions.

This has served a quite useful purpose, for much of the Association's work has been painstaking and wholly objective. Not all the research work has disclosed original or unknown data, but there has been a commendable sense of perspective about the reports, and it is a fair claim that the Association, particularly during 1955, has gained public recognition and prestige.

SOME may regret that the Association, from being an independent, non-political guardian of public interests, is now to become a political entity with its attendant dangers of narrow partisanship. Nevertheless, it would appear that the days of the unofficial "advisory" organisations are numbered in Hongkong. Time was when they flourished—the Kowloon Residents' Association (still functioning), the Peak and Mid-Levels Residents' Associations and the Cheung Chau Residents' Association (all three defunct).

In their self-imposed limited fields of activity, these organisations over the years fulfilled useful functions in the interests of the community, but they often suffered the frustration of a courteous hearing from Government minus official implementation of their ideas and proposals.

Today, in Hongkong, there is more civic consciousness; the general public are more and more aware of what they consider to be their social rights, and seek in slightly louder voice in affairs which affect their daily lives.

Government, on its part, has paralleled this development by considerably enlarging the scope and functions of the Urban Council; has widened the electorate and increased the size of the Council by additional elected representatives. Thus it is that organisations, whose declared objects and reasons are the safeguarding and nurturing of the interests of the community as a whole, find it necessary to seek elected representation on the Urban Council.

IT would appear that political parties, based on those to be found functioning in the municipalities of Britain, are now inevitable in Hongkong. The prospect need not frighten or dismay the public. At the moment there are two such parties—the Reform Club and the Civic Association. But their aims and ideals are basically the same; they both sincerely seek to bring about better health and welfare conditions for the populace. Their objectives, when considered in long-term perspective, need cause no affront.

At the next Urban Council elections the Civic Association, as a political body, will compete with the Reform Club. This will at least help to enliven the proceedings; should definitely encourage a larger turnout of voters on polling day, and will conceivably effect a further leavening of a Council whose importance to the community is constant growing.

Israel And Egypt Gird Themselves For Any Emergency

BEN GURION'S POLICY ENDORSED

Vote Of Confidence  
From Party  
ASSUMES FULL  
RESPONSIBILITY

Tel-Aviv, Dec. 29.  
Premier David Ben Gurion's political party today voted new confidence in his stand against the Arabs after a three-day "emergency" party meeting called by his critics.

As tension along Israel's borders increased during recent weeks, criticism against 69-year-old Ben Gurion's policy rumbled beneath the political surface.

The criticism was directed mainly against Ben Gurion and his own Defence Minister. He customarily exercises certain powers in security matters without consulting his cabinet.

The three-day closed meeting of the Mapai party studied a comprehensive plan of the present emergency—compiled by former Defence Minister Pinhas Lavon, reliable sources said.

It is believed that the Premier's critics within the party took the opportunity to challenge Ben Gurion's line of action against the Arabs.

The result was that Ben Gurion demanded his party's full confidence. It was believed that he personally took responsibility for Israel's action against Syria at Lake Tiberias where more than 50 Syrians died.

Peace Proposals Accepted

Ben Gurion himself, and Sharet, opened the discussion with references to economic and political problems, the sources said, but the meeting soon moved on to "preparations for an emergency."

Ben Gurion came out of retirement at his lonely sheep ranch to lead his country once more in meeting what the Jews consider an Arab threat to their survival.

The endorsement of Ben Gurion followed yesterday's Foreign Ministry announcement that Israel feels that her acceptance of peace proposals from United Nations Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, stood in contrast to "the Egyptian stand which was tantamount to their rejection."

Meanwhile, Egypt  
Gets More Arms

Cairo, Dec. 29.  
Czechoslovakia has provided Egypt with enough arms to enable it to meet any emergency in the near future, Colonel Osman Fawzi, the Egyptian military attache in Prague, said today.

Colonel Fawzi returned here to report to the government about the implementation of the Czechoslovak-Egyptian arms deliveries agreement.

KRUSHCHEV'S AMAZING APOLOGY

Paris, Dec. 29.  
Soviet leaders today made an apologetic gesture to Turkey, which went even further than the "mea culpa" they uttered to Yugoslav President Tito in Belgrade last summer.

The setting this time was the closing meeting of the Supreme Soviet in Moscow, where Communist Party chief, Nikita Krushchev, made a speech bristling with attacks on the West.

But when he came to the question of Soviet-Turkish relations, Krushchev provided the surprise of the day by declaring "The responsibility for the abnormal state of our relations cannot be attributed to Turkey alone. We on our side, have made intolerable statements."

Krushchev added that the Soviet Government had "tried to correct this, but, have not obtained results."

Krushchev's statement was taken here to signify a repudiation of Soviet territorial claims on Kars and Ardahan in northern Turkey near the Soviet border.

When the Soviet Communist Party chief made similar apologies for past Russian wrongs to Yugoslav leader, he blamed them on the "disregard and executed Soviet Minister of the Interior, Lavrenti Beria."

But today, the Soviet leader brushed off such excuses.

France-Press.

Mountbatten  
May Visit  
H.K. In 1956

London, Dec. 29.  
Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten of Burma, First Sea Lord, is contemplating a tour of British naval bases in the Far East early next year, an Admiralty spokesman said today. On this occasion, Lord Mountbatten is likely to make an official visit to India, where he was the last Viceroy. Although the programme of the tour has not been fixed it is thought that Lord Mountbatten will leave in a few weeks time. He will fly to Singapore and Hongkong. Lord Mountbatten has been First Sea Lord since last April. In October he went to the United States and Canada.—France-Press.

PLANE  
EXPLODES:  
2 DIE

Dover, Ohio, Dec. 29.  
Two men were killed today when a two-engine private plane exploded, crashed and burned near here.

The state highway patrol identified the plane as the property of the Gulf Refining Company.

First reports had said a four-engine plane was involved. Fire engines and an ambulance raced across rain-swept roads to the scene where two bodies were removed from the wreckage.—Reuter.

"Teddy Boys"  
Beat Up Indians

London, Dec. 29.  
A gang of young English thugs, dressed as "Teddy Boys", today beat up and robbed Indian customers of about 2,400 in an East London Indian cafe. The "Teddy Boys" threatened their victims with knives and improvised weapons. Customers' descriptions of the young gangsters have enabled detectives to begin a search in the surrounding districts.—France-Press.

MISTINGUETT

Paris, Dec. 29.  
Mistinguett, one-time idol of French music halls, was reported tonight to be in a "stationary condition" after suffering a stroke on Christmas Eve. Physicians said that it would be several days before they could make any predictions about the 82-year-old star's chances of recovery.—France-Press.

10 BEST FILMS OF 1955

Film critic, Jane Roberta picks her ten best films of the year in tomorrow's feature-packed edition of the China Mail.

Don't miss this special year-end feature—and in the meantime why not scribble out YOUR ten best films of the year and see how they compare?

This is only one of the highlights of tomorrow's Mail. There is a full list of popular light and bright features as well. Here are some of them:

- ★ In America they PAY you to buy a car!
- ★ The world's strangest secret society.
- ★ How to be a Personality.
- ★ Rebecca West writes on "The Great Spy Scandal".

There are all your regular favourites as well, including three pages of local and overseas pictures, sports news, women's news, a children's page, comic strips, puzzles, and more. All in the Saturday Mail.

IKE WILL SAY "NO" TO EDEN

EMBARGO LIFTING  
PROSPECTS DIM

Washington, Dec. 29.  
A highly placed United States official said today he expected the United States to resist any British pressure to ease restrictions on trade with Communist China at next month's Anglo-American "summit" talks in Washington.

Sir Anthony Eden, the British Prime Minister, and his Foreign Secretary, Mr Selwyn Lloyd, are due in Washington on January 30 for a five-day review on world problems with President Eisenhower and Mr John Foster Dulles, the Secretary of State.

The United States official was responding to a question at a press briefing on United States policy regarding the possibility of a British proposal to ease the ban on strategic goods imposed by agreement on China during the Korean war.

The official replied that he had a great deal of sympathy for the United States stand against increasing trade with Communist China at this time. He said he could not see how the West could bargain with Peking authorities by giving them what they wanted in advance.

Turning to other areas of United States-Asian policy, the official predicted that Japan and the United States would this year be able to quickly work out agreement on Japan's contribution to the upkeep of United States forces stationed in Japan and the size of self-defence forces to be maintained by Japan.

CLOSE TOGETHER

Under the Japan-US peace treaty signed at San Francisco, in 1951, Japan agreed to contribute annually towards the cost of its defence. But the question of size of the Japanese contribution has caused trouble each year and for the past year took months of negotiation.

No formal negotiations have yet begun on Japan's 1956 contribution, the official said, but in preliminary exploratory talks the views of Japanese and American officials were close enough together to say that "something could be worked out pretty quickly."

Formal negotiations were expected to open soon. In response to further questions the official made these other points:

BETTER POSITION

1. Japan at the end of this year was in a better position than at the end of last year. Economically, Japan, through the efforts of government and industry, and the favourable world economic conditions, had been able to expand trade. Politically, Japan now had a two-party system and a government with a working majority that gave promise of the kind of political stability that was essential to Japan's further progress.

2. The United States had received no official intimation either from Japan or South Korea that they were arranging for talks to settle their several quarrels.

3. Tokyo has not yet formally asked the State Department to declare any replacement for the Ambassador, Mr Sadao Iguchi.

HOPEFUL PROSPECT

4. Barring deterioration of world economic conditions generally there now was a "hopeful" possibility that Japan's economic upturn would help solve such basic problems as feeding and providing for the dense Japanese population.

Ready For Jamboree

Melbourne, Dec. 29.  
Squads of many nationalities mingled round camp fires tonight at Wonga Park at the foot of the dangerous ranges near Melbourne, the site of the largest pan-Pacific jamboree ever held in Australia.

By tonight 17,000 scouts from about 20 countries assembled at the camp in preparation for the official opening tomorrow by the Governor-General, Field Marshal Sir William Slim.—China Mail Special.

A Former Apprentice  
Rescues Company

Covenary, Dec. 29.  
Sir William Rootes, British car manufacturer, today became chief of Singer Motors, where he began as a penny an hour apprentice after leaving school.

It was to save his old firm from folding up that Sir William Rootes decided to step in and offer to buy out shareholders.

At a stormy meeting here Singer shareholders agreed to accept the offer of £1,400,000 from the Rootes car group to take over the whole of their ordinary and preference stock. The offer was made partly in cash and partly in shares.

The Singer firm started by making bicycles for the kings and queens of Europe in the 1870s. And it grew to become one of Britain's leading car-making concerns. It now includes the Humber, Hillman and Sunbeam Talbot car companies.

Now the Singer cars will not vanish from the roads. Sir William Rootes has given his word that they will continue to be made.—China Mail Special.

More Yalta Secrets  
Revealed

Washington, Dec. 29.  
The United States State Department tonight published previously secret papers relating to the controversial Big Four conference at Yalta in 1945, the last year of the war.

The documents provided fresh evidence that the wartime partnership between the Soviet Union and the United States began to disintegrate before the fighting ended.

Among them is a "secret and personal" message from Stalin to President Roosevelt indicating plainly that Stalin intended to have his own way about organizing a government for Poland.

A dispute between Russia and the United States and Britain over the future of Poland was probably the first major conflict of the cold war.

Another message from Mr. Averell Harriman, then Ambassador in Moscow to President Roosevelt in April 1945, said an "accumulation of minor incidents" beginning immediately after the Yalta conference ended, contributed to concern over American-Soviet relations. He mentioned specifically Soviet resistance to a proposal for American "air teams" and a "naval team" to visit territory under Soviet control to inspect bomb damage.

Another message to President Roosevelt published today was from Mr. Patrick Hurley, then American Ambassador to China in February 1945. It contained a secret proposal for a meeting of Mr. Roosevelt, Sir Winston Churchill and General Chiang Kai-shek at New Delhi to "clarify policies and strategies" and boost morale in the China theatre of war.

The newly disclosed documents are contained in a 1,032-page book, published by the State Department on "the conference at Yalta and Yalta 1945."—Reuter.

When Gruenther Sees Eisenhower

NATO WILL BE THE  
PRIME SUBJECT

Washington, Dec. 29.  
General Alfred Gruenther, the NATO commander in Europe, is expected to confer with President Eisenhower at Key West, Florida, as soon as he leaves hospital here where he underwent a minor operation, according to military officials.

General Gruenther's conferences with President Eisenhower are expected to have an important bearing on European defence policies in 1956. They will have added importance in view of the unrest in French North Africa, which is NATO's back door, and the fact that the bulk of the French Army is pinned down there.

These officials said General Gruenther continues to consider NATO's defence have been seriously weakened by the dispatch of so many French forces to North Africa.

France has sent to Africa troops from NATO's European forces and NATO might be further weakened if more reinforcements have to be sent to North Africa. There are only about 30,000 French troops left in Indo-China, consequently few more reinforcements can be expected from there.

MOBILISATION?

Some of these officials consider that after the French elections on January 2, France may have to mobilise her civilians for service in North Africa. This is reported to be the view of some French military chiefs as well.

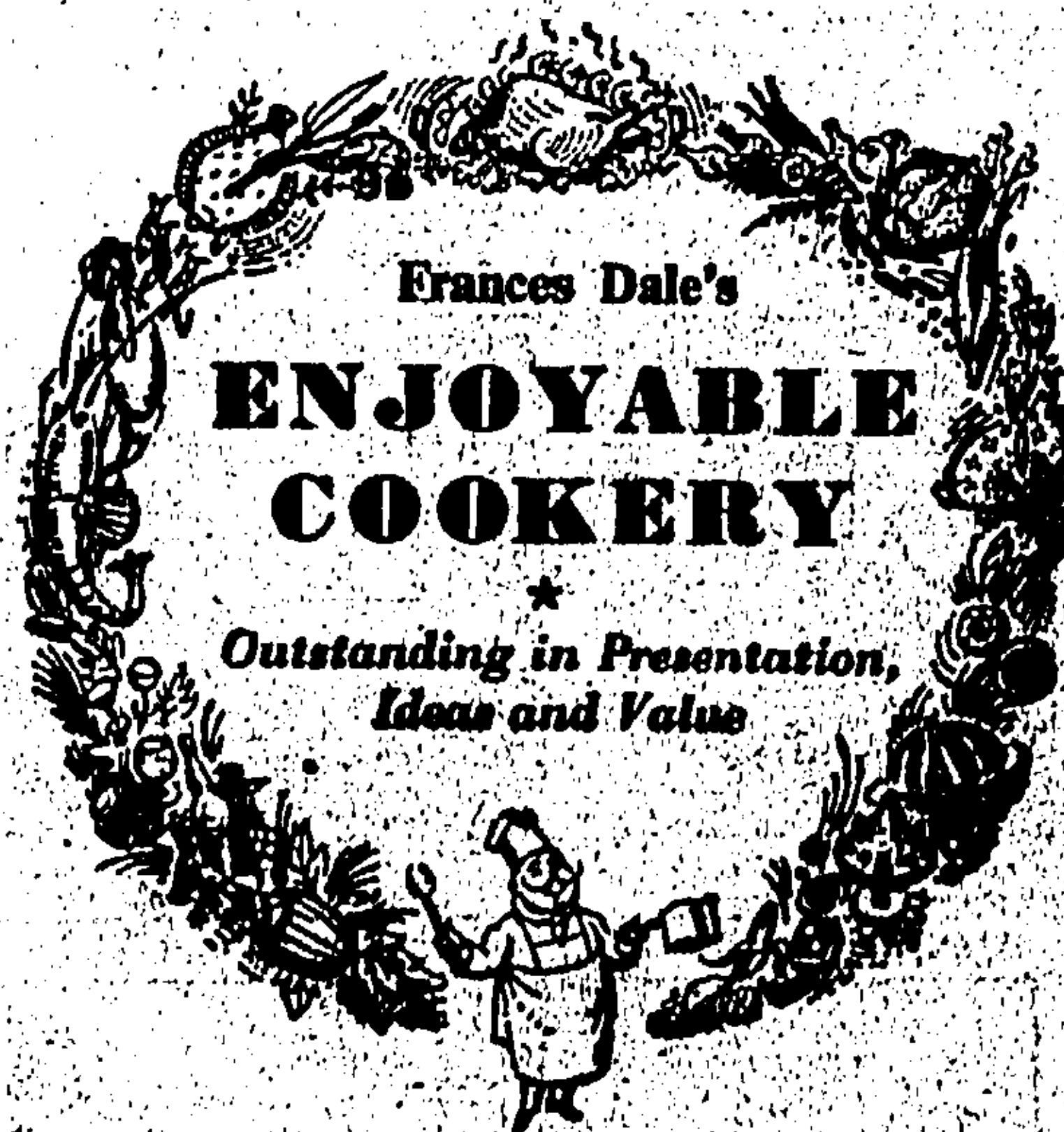
They believed it was possible General Gruenther may urge that the United States take a hand in restoring peace in North Africa in agreement with France and local representatives, so as to restore the French NATO strength in Europe. However, it is known that the State Department would be very reluctant to take any role in North African affairs.

These officials pointed out that the United States enjoys much goodwill in North Africa, especially Morocco, and this might be an asset, at least for Africa behind-scenes advice should it be asked for by France and North African nationalist leaders.

They recalled that Algeria is in the NATO defence system and it is the only NATO territory where unrest occurs, which naturally causes anxiety to NATO's commander, General Gruenther.

They believed General Gruenther may also talk to President Eisenhower about NATO equipment beyond 1956 and what should be done to equip

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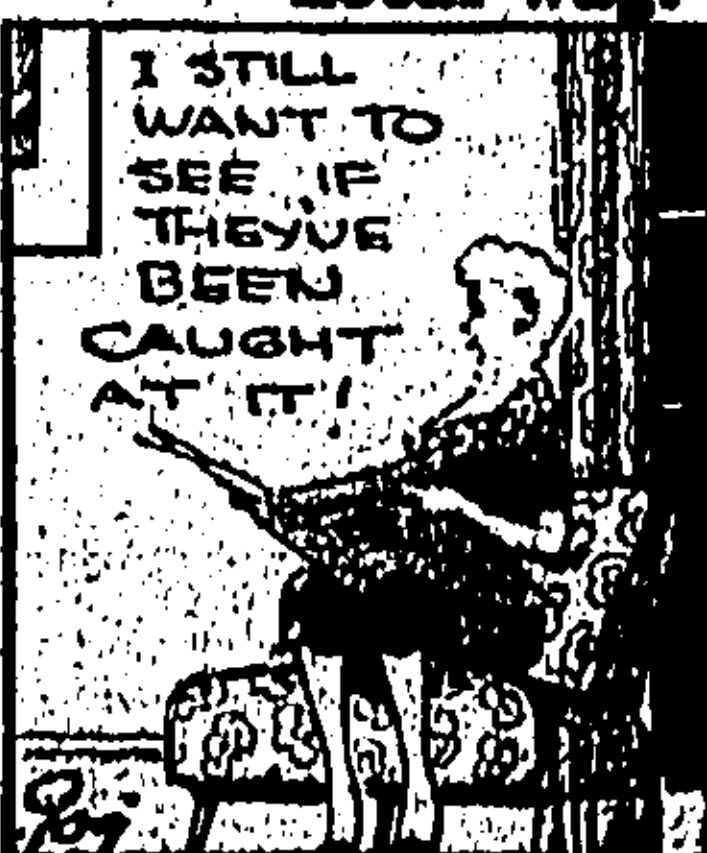
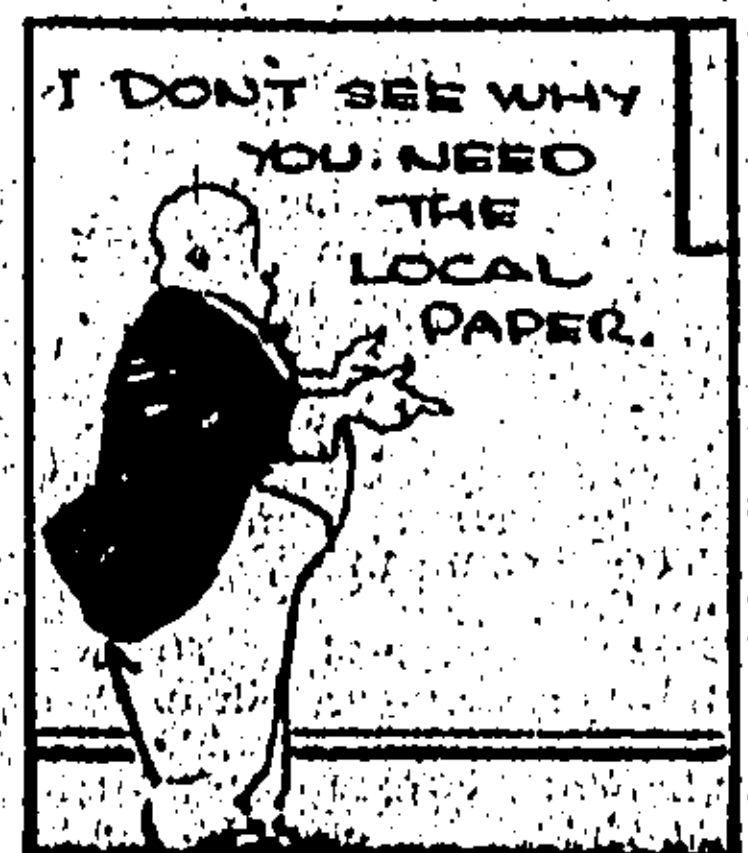
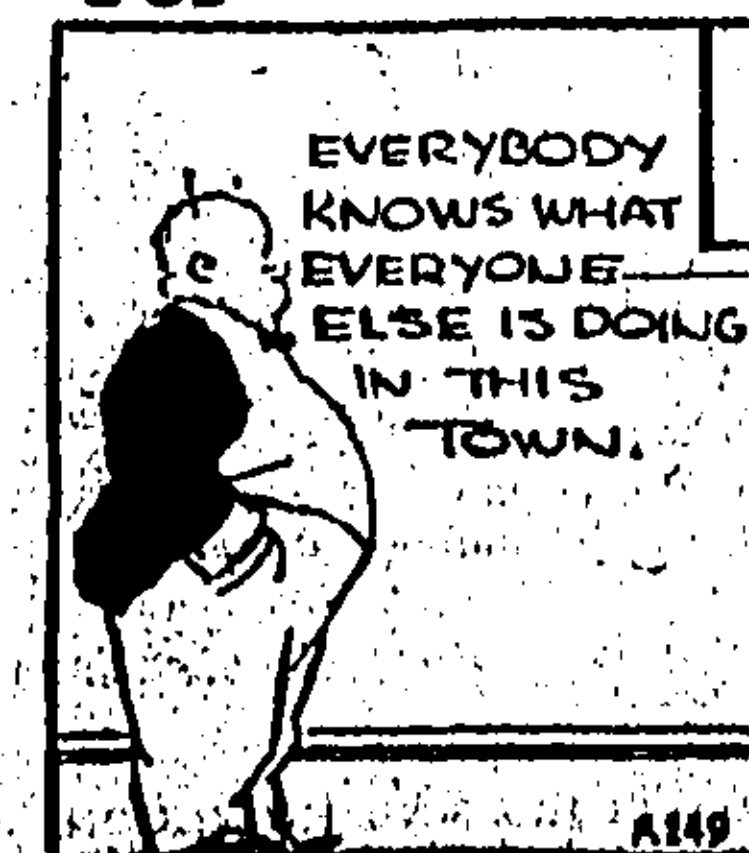
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Local war!

**Lloyd To Examine Middle East Policies****ENVOYS SUMMONED FOR URGENT TALKS IN LONDON**

London, Dec. 29.

Britain's whole Middle East policy—widely considered to have suffered major setbacks recently—will come under close scrutiny here next week when Mr Selwyn Lloyd, the Foreign Secretary, confers with British envoys in the area, diplomatic sources said today.

Mr Lloyd, appointed Foreign Secretary last week in Sir Anthony Eden's Cabinet reshuffle, is summoning eight envoys for urgent talks next Wednesday and Thursday.

Diplomatic sources said the talks would cover the whole range of current Middle East problems—particularly the recent Communist arms deal with Egypt, Britain's unsuccessful move to get Jordan into the five-nation Baghdad pact, which touched off violence in the Arab Kingdom and the continued Arab-Israeli tension.

**Chief Topics**

The talks will give Mr Lloyd an up-to-date assessment of the critical Middle East situation before he accompanies Sir Anthony Eden to Washington later next month for discussions with President Eisenhower and Mr John Foster Dulles, United States Secretary of State.

The British diplomatic representatives at the Foreign Office meetings will be those accredited to Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Israel, Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf area.

Diplomatic sources said these are likely to be the chief topics of their agenda:

★ 1. An assessment of the new "cold war" front the West considers Middle East with the Czech arms agreement with Egypt and Soviet "wooing" of other Arab states. These Russian moves have given Western diplomats their most severe jolt for years, since they have long regarded the area as a Western sphere of influence.

They charge that the Czech-Egyptian arms contract—which has brought bitter comments from Western leaders—has upset the "arms balance" the Western powers have been trying to maintain between Israel and the Arab states since 1950.

★ 2. The violent reaction to the British proposal to Jordan that she should join the Baghdad Pact.

Failure to get Jordan into the pact was seen in the West as a major blow to British policy, which has been working for more than a year on the gradual construction of the organization.

★ 3. The reaction to the proposals put forward last November by the British Prime Minister for an Arab-Israeli settlement. Sir Anthony Eden then called for a compromise between Israel's insistence that her permanent frontiers should be based on the 1949 armistice lines and the Arab countries' argument that the lines should be those proposed by the United Nations in 1947—which would make Israel much smaller than at present.

Israel rejected Sir Anthony Eden's idea, while most of the Arab states were non-committal.

**Discounted**

Foreign Office officials today discounted suggestions that any major decisions might spring from Mr Lloyd's meetings with the envoys.

A spokesman said it would be a "general discussion" with Mr Lloyd in the chair.—China Mail Special.

**Free Smoking For Volunteers**

Sheffield, Dec. 29.

Medical experts at Sheffield University are looking for strong-willed volunteers to undergo tests to show what effect smoking has on the lungs before and after giving it up.

Professor William Hobson, head of the University's Department of Social and Industrial Medicine, said yesterday that heavy smokers, men and women, were wanted to help check whether the effects of smoking are reversible or not and if there is a point of no return.

The smokers will have to go on puffing for a few days while they are X-rayed and given a breathing test and chest examination. Then they will have to give up smoking altogether.—China Mail Special.

**Pennsylvania Backs Ike's Candidacy**

Harrisburg, Dec. 29.

The Republican Party of Pennsylvania today officially came out in favour of a second term of office for President Eisenhower.

The State party organization decided to back Eisenhower's candidacy for the November, 1956 presidential election by entering his supporters in the State primary elections on April 24.

Delegates selected in the primary elections nominate the party's presidential candidate at the Republican Party National Convention. The State of Pennsylvania forms one of the biggest blocs of voters in the National Convention.—France-Press.

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# What makes Sammy run...

'SAM' BEING the family pet name for  
Hugh Gaitskell, Attlee's successor as leader  
of the Socialist Party.

Gaitskell's rivals—Morrison and Bevan—  
are already widely known, widely written  
about. But Gaitskell's swift strides to  
success are inadequately chronicled.

Not until 10 years ago was he even an M.P.  
And yet in that brief time he finds himself  
the likely tenant of No. 10—if the Socialists  
ever get back to power.

We should all know more about this man  
and what makes him run.

by **GEORGE GALE**

**A** LONG the back row of the stilted, posed family portrait stand  
a dozen turbaned domestics, a pony, and a donkey. The cook  
holds a saucepan in his hand. Three people are sitting in the  
front row.

On the right is a slender man, getting on for 40, with a face in  
which lie sternness and duty. He leans forward, fingering a dog's ear.  
In the centre is a woman with a softer face, a dog on her lap,  
another at her feet. And on the left, in the arms of a primly pursing  
nanny, is a child.

The portrait was taken in 1906. It is a portrait of the British  
raj, and of the family of a civil servant who administered part of Burma.

The infant's name is Hugh  
Todd Naylor Gaitskell, known  
to me as the boy who was  
going to win the junior steeple-  
chase. He didn't. Jay remem-  
bers little else about him at  
school. There are few anecdotes.  
He must have been a nice boy.  
He became a prefect. Cross-  
man, head of the school.

"I never really had a home  
life." His father died in Burma  
when Hugh was 12. His mother  
eventually remarried.

He remembers his father as a  
stern man whose legacy to his  
children was a sense of duty.  
He remembers his mother with  
love. "Yes, she is still alive. She  
is 78," he says with normal  
pride.

## A BOWLER

**H**E grew up in England, a  
boarder at the Dragon  
prep school in Oxford at six.  
Holidays in Norfolk, in flats in  
London, in Oxford.

At school J. P. W. Mallalieu  
(now a Socialist M.P.), beat  
him in a speech competition.  
John Bejerman, the poet, says  
he saw Gaitskell, aged 12, wear-  
ing a bowler in South  
Kensington.

Gaitskell once bumped into  
the father of one of the boys at  
school. "He was a strange  
old man. I don't suppose he was  
really so old. He asked me what  
I was going to do. I said I was  
going on to Winchester.  
"He said to me: 'I hope you  
realise how lucky you are. Not  
one boy in 10,000 has the chance  
of an education like that.'"  
"I remember the incident  
still in every detail. It happened  
on the Banbury road."  
His loving mother and stern  
father did not influence the boy.  
"At that time I loved most my  
brother. I wanted to do every-  
thing he did. He was six years  
older than me. I followed him  
step by step up the school.  
When he was around 10 I was  
happy. When he was not I  
was miserable."

## A PREFECT

**H**E did not get a scholarship  
to Winchester, though he  
had hoped to. For a year, he sat  
beside Richard Crossman, (the  
ex-Bevanite, apologist, now  
Gaitskell's welcomed ally). "He  
was much cleverer, than I was.  
He was always trotting out  
Latin verses."

Douglas Jay (who has been a  
Socialist Minister, and is now  
the principal altar-boy to  
Gaitskell) says: "Gaitskell at  
school was always pointed out  
as a 'top'."

Each top name in fashion dis-  
claimed the coat: "Not guilty,"  
said Victor Stuebel.  
"I didn't make it," said John  
Mac Marshall. "It isn't mine."

She turned up at Hurst  
Park races in an extra-  
ordinary coat (a knee-length  
camel hair trench coat with  
a fur collar) suitable for  
bengling, which she wore  
with black suede accessories  
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- The key was
- a slightly
- spivvish degree at Oxford

But Gaitskell knew clearly  
now his second ambition: to  
succeed. This was to remain  
constant and demanding.

In 1937, too, he married a  
woman who has shared his un-  
ambitions and say those who  
know her well, reinforced them.  
Yet his curvy hair, boy's  
mouth, weak chin did not sug-  
gest success—any more than his  
career so far. (He still travels  
unrecognised, doubtless to his  
regret.) He remained one of  
several clever young economists  
on the fringe of influence, far  
from the shore of power.

The war brought him near  
the shore of power. The war  
gave him authority. The war  
gave him responsibility. The  
war disciplined his ambition.  
It taught him to administer.  
It taught him, too, the restraints  
placed upon power by the prac-  
ticable, the discreet, the polite.  
The academician became civil  
servant; the civil servant stirred  
restlessly into the politician.

## A FLAT

**H**E was a good teacher. He  
taught economics to Not-  
tingham miners. He got on well  
with the girls at the local  
palace. He took a flat, and  
emancipated himself from land-  
ladies.

He came to London as a  
lecturer in economics at  
University College. His friend-  
ship with Evan Durbin, the  
most powerful in his life, now  
completed itself.

Durbin was another young  
Socialist economist. Gaitskell  
took to the political platform  
on Durbin's behalf in 1929.  
Until Durbin was drowned, in  
1947 (when he was a junior  
Minister), the two were to be  
bracketed together, and usually  
Durbin came first. "Evan," says  
Gaitskell, "was better organised  
than I. I had more 'touch'."

In 1931 Gaitskell was nomi-  
nated for Chatham. "This was  
the only time I have ever  
questioned the practicability of  
democratic 'Socialism.' He  
spoke on the same platform as  
Communists, but his local party  
decided against such activities,  
and he accepted the decision  
painlessly."

He went to Vienna for a year,  
helped shuttle refugees out,  
then returned to fight and lose  
Chatham in the 1935 election.

"I was bitterly disappointed."  
In that unhappy year politics  
did not seem to lead to success  
for Gaitskell. Nor did his  
academic life. "I am not a  
scholar. I am too impatient. I  
think I was a good teacher.  
But I did no research."

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But I did no research."

MAN  
of the  
MOMENT  
A TWO-PART  
PROFILE



whisky. Dalton said I could go  
as his 'personal assistant.'"

"Early in the morning I got  
up and went from the basement  
in the Ministry and wrote a  
note to Dalton, setting out my  
conditions: 1. The UNRRA job  
remained open for three  
months. 2. I was to go as per-  
sonal assistant. 3. No more  
late nights with Dalton. He  
accepted my conditions."

Gaitskell smiles faintly now,  
remembering this.

So came the end of the war,  
the General Election of 1945,  
and another choice: Remain a  
senior civil servant; return to  
academic life—or fight Leeds  
South for the Socialists. He  
had a slight attack of  
thrombosis. "I think it was  
with the pressure of fear," he  
says. "Of what? 'Oh, bombs  
and things.'"

Dalton called in Horder, who  
said he could stand.

## A SEAT

**G**AITSKELL stood and won the  
seat with a majority of  
10,000. He could have become  
once Secretary for Overseas  
Trade, under Cripps. The doctors  
said "No."

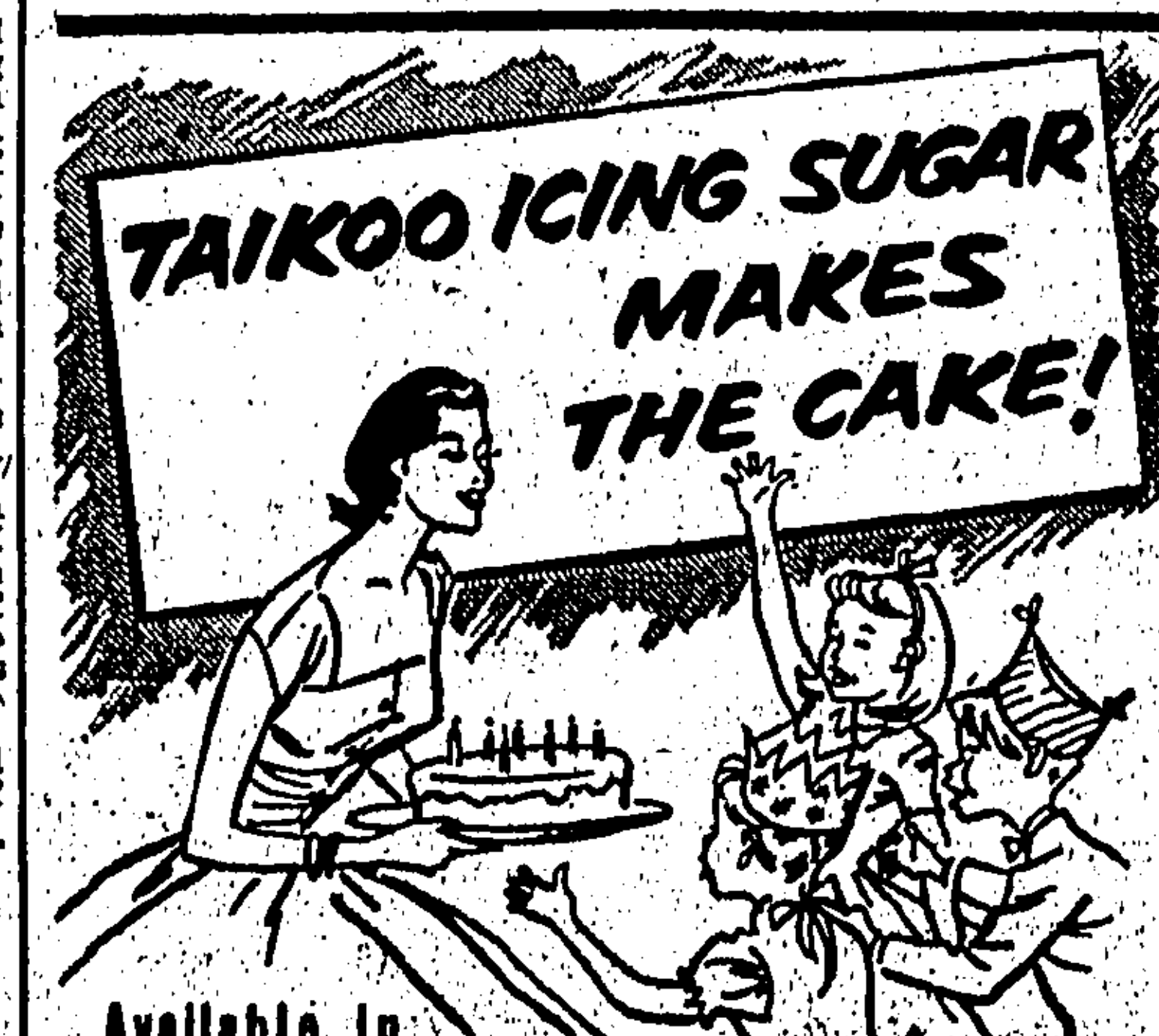
"But I wouldn't have gone  
into the Commons to remain a  
back-bencher. I wanted a job.  
I wanted to do things."

Within six months he became  
Parliamentary Secretary to the  
Ministry of Fuel and Power.  
The road was opening up. It is  
familiar. It looked broad and  
straight. It led to power and  
authority, to limelight, to  
success.

The man who, as boy and  
young man, had never done as  
much as he was expected to do,  
now began doing more than he  
was expected to do.

## TOMORROW

The tears that  
Gaitskell fears



Available in  
moisture-proof tins.



Now in all the shops.

Vancouver, where  
**BANKS GET  
HELD UP  
REGULARLY**  
By Jack Brooks

Vancouver.  
WHEN bank teller Mrs.  
Barbara Wood caught  
her usual bus to work at  
the Dunsmuir and Gran-  
ville branch of the Imperial  
Bank of Canada in Van-  
couver BC, it looked like  
being just another working  
day. Two hours later, how-  
ever, she was calling a  
risky bluff — on a bank  
robber who had tried to hold  
up her bank.

Don't think from this that Mrs.  
Wood was unlucky, for the odds  
are only 10 to one against any  
particular one of Vancouver's  
125 banks being held up during  
the 230-odd working days of the  
year. For Mrs Wood the odds  
had merely run out.

Vancouver today is as impor-  
tous to bank hold-ups as the  
Middle West of America was in  
the heyday of the late and un-  
lucky Dillinger, Baby-Face  
Nelson and Co.

## SAME METHOD

Thirteen times so far this  
year thugs have walked into  
bank buildings threatening  
"Pay up or else..." and 13  
times walked out again the  
richer for the threat.

The robbery method is usual-  
ly the same. They walked to a  
teller's cage, show the teller a  
note reading "Give me the  
money or I'll shoot to kill,"  
grab every dollar in sight and  
walk out—fast.

Within seconds the alarm  
bells are ringing in every police  
car, newspaper office and radio  
station. Minutes later police  
and reporters are at the now-  
closed doors of the bank and the  
hunt is on.

This has become so regular  
that it is almost monotonous.  
So much so that bank staffs  
can answer the usual questions  
from police and press without  
the questions being asked.  
Everybody just takes it in  
their stride.

The police reaction, mean-  
while, is to appoint special  
cars and crews armed with sub-  
machine guns to go on touring  
duty.

## DANGEROUS MEN

Finally, the reaction of the  
underworld is to use masks,  
work faster, steal faster get-  
away cars and keep your  
mouth shut. And so the hold-  
ups continue.

So far this year 23 men have  
taken part in the 13 hold-ups.  
Ten of them are still free with  
an estimated \$10,000 in loot.  
The rest are doing an average  
of 14 years behind bars in  
terms ranging from four years  
to life—and an occasional lash  
or two.

In all, \$30,000 was stolen  
from banks in armed hold-ups  
this year. Most of the hold-up  
men are armed—and dangerous.

There was the one who grab-  
bed a young girl bystander  
outside the bank and held her  
as hostage while he ran to his  
car. A steel-nerved policeman  
shot him in the head, the bullet  
whistling an inch past the  
left ear of the hostage.

Some, like the one who met  
up with Mrs Wood, try to  
bluff. In her case, she sensed  
he had no gun and demanded  
to see one before handing over  
cash. The bandit fled with-  
out a dollar.

# Who Dropped The Bricks Of 1955?

By **ANNE EDWARDS**

**PRINCESS MARGARET**  
dropped a fashion brick  
the other day which is echo-  
ing still.

She turned up at Hurst  
Park races in an extra-  
ordinary coat (a knee-length  
camel hair trench coat with  
a fur collar) suitable for  
bengling, which she wore  
with black suede accessories  
suitable for a cocktail party  
in town.

Each top name in fashion dis-  
claimed the coat: "Not guilty,"  
said Victor Stuebel.  
"I didn't make it," said John  
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said Cavanagh. "Definitely not  
me," said Paterson.

But the Princess is not the  
only one to drop a brick this  
year.

Crawley, the former royal  
governess, described in a mag-  
azine a "drooping" the Coler  
ceremony which didn't take  
place with the words: "The  
bearing, and dignity of the  
Queen, at the 'drooping' of the  
Colours, ceremony at the Horse  
Guards Parade last week caused  
admiration among the spec-  
tators."

High on the list of resounding  
dropped bricks is the rich man's  
boob made by Mr. R. A. Butler,  
when he told the nation whose  
average weekly earnings in the  
main industries is £16 not to  
drop back into easy evenings  
with port wine and over-ripe  
peasants.

Hard to pick one brick bigger  
than the rest from the long  
series dropped by the Dockers,  
but the one she admits herself  
that she "will never live down"  
is the phrase she used to ex-  
plain why her car was uphol-  
stered in sapphire. "Black is  
too old to go on."

Biggest boob by a visiting  
American star is the one made  
by Ava Gardner, who was in  
London for the kids of free  
publicity that American stars  
get from being presented to the  
Queen, and wore a dress so  
tight that she could not curtsy.

And for my sixth I choose a  
girl who made her name as the  
silent star—Sabrina.

A girl who looked promising  
while she remained dumb, but  
when she opened her mouth in  
a TV programme—what a brick  
that was.

"Flat, useless, dull—it was the  
reverse of everything that  
Sabrina looks like."







## CONCLUDING THE JIMMY DIMMOCK STORY

## Curt Words—And I Leave Spurs

As told by JIMMY DIMMOCK to JACK WOOD

The magic that found expression through the feet of Jimmy Dimmock was still there in 1926 when Dimmock's father died and his other "father," Peter McWilliam, left Tottenham Hotspur to manage Middlesbrough. Jimmy never recovered from the double blow.

"Dad had given me my start. He was a kind man, and, although I got into a number of scrapes, he was always there to help. The same went for Peter McWilliam," says Dimmock.

"There were great managers before him, and great ones since. But never a greater. He made it his job to study each player and he knew what was best for him.

"He knew that I liked spending, and as I've told, held back part of my money each week for the bank. There were times when he tried to get me to live away from Tottenham to keep me away from my pals.

"Once he fixed up for me to go into a dig over Arthur Grimstead in Watford. I took a bag down there and spent one night. The next night I was back home."

When Peter McWilliam left, he took with him a parting gift from Dimmock—a £25 tie-pin with the Spurs cockerel set in diamonds.

## CALL TO NORTH

The sunny days of his time with Spurs were now over. His great pal, Jack Elkes, had gone to Middlesbrough and Peter McWilliam made a bid to persuade Dimmock to go there too. "I almost agreed," says Dimmock. "The Spurs let me talk to my old boss and he almost sold me the idea of going North. But the clubs could not settle on a fee and the deal fell through."

## League Soccer Standings

The following are the League soccer standings up to and including Sunday, December 25.

First Division			
	P	A	Pts
South China	10	13	1
Eastern	10	13	0
Ring Tao	14	9	2
K.M.B.	12	2	3
Kitchiee	12	7	2
C.A.A.	15	7	2
Army	14	6	3
R.A.F.	13	0	1
St. Joseph's	13	0	0
Police	12	4	1
Club	14	0	1
Second Division			
	P	A	Pts
K.M.B.	10	13	1
South China	10	12	1
Kitchiee	13	9	4
Jardines	10	4	2
Ring Tao	15	7	4
C.A.A.	12	2	3
Eastern	13	2	3
Army	13	0	1
R.A.F.	14	2	1
Police	10	3	4
Tung Wah	14	1	5
St. Joseph's	12	2	3
Club	14	0	1
Third Division			
	P	A	Pts
C.M.B.	10	7	3
R.A.M.C.	10	7	3
Prisons	10	7	2
K.M.B.	10	7	2
Talkies	11	4	2
Gymnastics	11	4	2
Little Swan	11	4	2
R.F.M.E.	11	4	2
Tramways	10	3	4
Dockyard	10	3	4
Telephones	11	2	2
Solihulls	11	2	2
Duty Farm	10	0	0
Fourth			
	P	A	Pts
B & S	11	3	0
Head Waters	10	2	0
H.K. Aircraft	10	2	0
R.L.L.	10	2	0
Tamar	9	0	1
Caroline Hill	10	1	1
Watsons	9	3	1
Kowloon	9	0	0
Godowin	9	0	0
Hollandia	9	0	0
University	9	0	0
Druid	9	0	0
Lane Crawford	9	0	0
Rediffusion	9	0	0

## Sports Diary

## TODAY

Tottenham Cup semi-final.

## TOMORROW

Soccer

Div. 1: Kitchiee v Police (Club)

3.30 p.m. Army v South China (HK Stadium)

3.30 p.m. R.A.F. v Navy (Navy)

2.30 p.m. Div. 2: Kitchiee v Police (Club)

Army v South China (HK Stadium)

R.A.F. v Jardines (Navy). All matches at 2 p.m.

Div. 3: Tramways v Talkies; Dockyard v Dairly; Eastern v B.S. at Happy Valley at 2.15 p.m. Little Sal Wan v Solihulls; R.F.M.E. v Telephones at Happy Valley at 3.45 p.m. Prisons v K.M.B. (Stanley) at 3.45 p.m.

Div. 4: H.K. v Tamar (Happy Valley) 2.15 p.m.; Godowin v Hollandia (Happy Valley) 3.45 p.m.

## SUNDAY

Soccer

Div. 1: Kitchiee v Police (Club)

2 p.m. Div. 2: Tung Wah v K.M.B. (Club)

2 p.m. Div. 3: C.M.B. v R.A.M.C. (H.V.)

2.15 p.m. Div. 4: Lane Crawford v University

Watson v Rediffusion at Happy Valley at 2.15 p.m. H.K. Aircraft v Caroline Hill (H.V.) 3.45 p.m. All matches at Happy Valley.

## MONDAY

Racing

Fourth Race Meeting, Second Day, Happy Valley, 1.30 p.m.

Soccer

Governor's Cup, C.A.A. v H.K.F.A. (HK Stadium), 2 p.m.

Golf

Fanning Mixed Foursomes, First round.

Cricket

Triangular Tournament: H.K.C. v R.A.F. &amp; Navy, at Happy Valley, 10.30 a.m.



Jimmy Dimmock. He told his story in a North London hospital.

"I was not sorry at the time. But looking back, boy, I often wonder what would have happened had I made the move. Perhaps he would have stayed there and become a leading Northern light. Certainly his star was dipping down now from dizzy heights to depths that tested his resilience and Cockney spirit to the full.

Spurs were relegated to the Second Division in 1928. The boy wonder, the hero of the early twenties, shared in the decline that made White Hart-line a gloomy place.

Dimmock tried to forget that times were bad. He became more and more friendly with the bottle, though he still stuck to a lifelong rule that there should be no drinking in the 24 hours before a game.

## UNHAPPY TWIST

Then, in the summer of 1930, came the final unhappy twist to the story of Dimmock and Spurs. He received a note from Percy Smith, who had succeeded McWilliam as manager.

Here are the words that stick in the Dimmock throat to this day. Words that made him for a time a bitter, unhappy young man. For remember, he was still only a few months over 30:

"The directors have not yet made up their mind whether to re-engage you for next season."

That, and nothing else, the marriage between the mighty club and the ldd next door was over. Dimmock was on his way out.

Several clubs tried to sign him. Mr. Prince Cox, manager of Bristol Rovers, stayed in London for three days in a bid to get him. "He told me I could be sure of a first-team place. But I didn't fancy the idea of getting stranded down there. So I joined the newly formed Thames club. They folded up after only two seasons."

## NOW TO BUSINESS

There followed a season with Leyton Orient and then one with Ashford in the Kent League.

"I was never happy with any of these clubs. It just wasn't the same. So at the end of the 1933 season Jimmy boy said goodbye to football."

"I had nearly £3,500 in the bank thanks to a couple of £650 benefits with Spurs and the foresight of Peter McWilliam. I was ready for business."

For the first time in our bedside talks, the mood changed. It was obvious that business and Dimmock were uneasy partners. He began in the haulage business, buying a couple of lorries and carting furniture north with his two younger brothers.

"But it was no good. I'd get up north, meet a few of my footballing pals up there and forget to come back for a few days. I was never cut out for this business lark—not on my own account anyway."

Then he opened a jellied oel and shellfish stall outside an hotel, close to White Hart-line. For a while business was good. Spurs fans remembered the great days and found it an excuse to talk to the great man of yesterday.

Often, old playing pals would visit the stall. "I never had the heart to charge them for their oels," he says in a way that tells

you he would do the same thing again. "Then we'd adjourn to the pub and talk over old times. What with that and me lidding eels so much myself there wasn't any profit.

## HINT TO YOUTH

"The modern footballer is luckier. He has classes he can go to and get himself trained for business."

I asked Jimmy what he would do if it could happen all over again. Came a reply as sincere as it was spontaneous.

"You know, boy, I think I would do it all over again. But perhaps I wouldn't be quite such a fool with money. In the good days I several times sent fellaes along to my tailor to get measured for a suit. I paid the bill.

"To the youngsters of today, I would say this: Plan in your minds what you are going to do when the glamour and fun of playing have gone."

"Get yourself a good wife. My Alice was always that to me. If it hadn't been for sticking to me through all those times when her Jim was being a bit of a fool... well, I guess I would only have been worse."

(COPYRIGHT)

## AAU Officials Are Quadrennial Hitchhikers

Kansas City, Missouri, Dec. 20

Dr. Forrest Allen, veteran basketball coach at the University of Kansas and outspoken critic of athletic practices in general, today described Amateur Athletic Union officials as "quadrennial oceanic hitchhikers."

Dr. Allen's criticism came during a speech before the Breakfast Club of Optimist International. He referred specifically to the AAU handling of the West Santee case.

Santee, America's fastest mile runner, was suspended by the AAU last October. It was alleged that he had accepted excessive expense money for three spring track meets in California. A reversal of the AAU action made on November 20 lifted Santee's suspension.

The vociferous Allen said a committee of seven officials was responsible for the AAU ruling. He termed the group "an anonymous bunch that seems like the Ku Klux Klan."

Santee, Dr. Allen said, is a "fine boy, a good student, who just likes to run and because he can run well he was invited to various track meets sponsored by the AAU throughout the country."

We went out to California when he was invited and got travel expenses. And that supposedly makes him a professional. Nuts. I know half-dozen or almost a dozen young men who have become wealthy in AAU meets in the past through expense money."

Every athlete who gets a college scholarship, Dr. Allen said, is a "professional, one who receives compensation for athletic skill or knowledge. Let's not fool ourselves about this amateur business."

The only excuse for having the AAU, he said, was that it was a part of the American Olympic Committee. He added: "As far as its work in the Olympics is concerned, the AAU officials are quadrennial hitchhikers. Every four years they hitchhike overseas on your money."—United Press.

## JOHN LANDY TO RUN AGAIN

Melbourne, Dec. 30

John Landy, Australian World Mile record holder, who has been out of competition since last December, said today he would return to the track at the Olympic Park here next Wednesday.

Landy will run in the half-mile and his opponents will include Lon Spurrier, United States, who set new World figures for the distance last year.

Landy said he was not expecting to win, but would use the race as "a tryout."—China Mail Special.



## SUGAR RAY ROBINSON TELLS

## How I Got Rid Of My Ghost

On December 9 Sugar Ray Robinson emerged from a sudden obscurity to a sudden new fame by becoming the only boxer in the world to "come back" and win a World Championship for the third time. RICHARD KILLIAN sought the How and the Why.

The answers:—

NEW YORK.

Sugar Ray Robinson, wearing the constant smile of a man who has played a trick on the whole world, is back in business.

His Harlem bar is packing customers four deep since his against-the-odds return to the Middleweight Championship. "I just got rid of my ghost," Sugar told me today over the din of clinking glasses.

He meant that he had conquered the haunting fear that he would fail to recapture the glory—and the big money—of a World Champion.

And Sugar, 35 years old, did it with a flurry of spectacular punches "like old times," to knock out 20-year-old Bobo Olson.

## THE NEED

But what goaded Sugar Ray into going through the drudgery of training, for the chance to win the Middleweight title for the third time?

Money—the lack of it. Most of Sugar's troubles he brought on himself. It was not a twist of fate that made him start downhill after riding one of boxing's greatest careers to its highest peak.

In Harlem, where hero-worship approaches the religious fervor of evangelism, Ray was thoroughly disliked.

And his money-making businesses—he had his finger in all kinds of pies—were boycotted for a long time by Harlem's hundreds of thousands.

## THE CONTRAST

For years the coloured people had objected to Ray and his flamingo-coloured Cadillac, his jewels, his garish clothes, valets, and his servants.

He even kept a dwarf in his entourage. The contrast with the poverty of Harlem was too much. And Sugar's businesses began to fail.

Last year Sugar sent for his personal physician, Dr. Vincent Nardello, and said: "Doc, I've got to get some money."

Said Nardello, official doctor for the New York State Athletic Commission: "All he needed to polish his timing, blocking, feinting and weaving was a few weeks of practice."

## WEALTHY CALIFORNIAN TO INVADE INTERNATIONAL MOTOR RACING

By DAVID SELLS

Modena, Italy.

A wealthy, Californian building contractor, Mr. Tony Parravano, is planning a full-scale invasion of international motor-racing next season in a bid to scoop the top places in Grand Prix and Sports car competitions.

A fleet of 22 Ferrari and Maserati racing machines is to be his striking force. He hopes it will win him the number one racing position vacated by the all-conquering Mercedes-Benz stable, which retired temporarily from the Championship battle this autumn.

Drivers will be chosen from a team of six or eight men, two "aces" supported by brilliant young men with growing reputations.

Skilled German mechanics from Stuttgart, leading the Parravano technical squad, will nurse the cars at his Modena base.

The architect of this ambitious campaign, which may well mould the pattern of 1956 racing, is a tubby (tall) American who emigrated from Arping, a mountain village in the Abruzzi province, at the age of 16. He is now 37, married, and has two sons.

## STILL UNKNOWN

The fortune he has amassed in his Los Angeles building business is equalled only by his passion for motor-racing.

Since he began racing cars four years ago, Mr. Parravano has become known as a leading American enthusiast, although his cars have only occasionally competed. He is still a "unknown." If he plans maturely, however, racing fans will not long remain in ignorance of his name.

Mr. Parravano remains genuinely modest about his chances next season, honest about his hopes, and impressively cool in his planning. "I am not worried about getting drivers," he told me. "The vital thing is to have good cars, running smoothly."

Already, he owns 14 machines (four Maseratis and 10 Ferraris), mostly stabled in Los Angeles. On order, are three Maserati Grand Prix models, three Maserati sports, and two 3,500 c.c. Ferraris.

"I intend to modify some of them, fitting fuel-injection and possibly new gear-changes," he said. "I think my cars will be able to beat the Ferrari and Maserati works teams, but we must wait and see."

"You must prepare cars for races well ahead of time and plan like Mercedes and Jaguar do—that is my rule. I think the Italians fall here."

"Their cars are unreliable in this respect. Even a couple of days before a race, sometimes, their cars have not been finally chosen. They break down."

Asked if he intended to run any Mercedes cars, Mr. Parravano replied: "They will not sell."

He has great faith in the potential abilities of young

drivers and decided views on racing discipline.

## ALL YOUNG DRIVERS

"With proper cars, lots of drivers have a good chance to get close to Moss and Fangio," he declares. "Moss was never up to much before he drove Mercedes, but look at him now."

"I would rather have all young drivers so that they can be trained. A lot of drivers get spoiled, especially Italians, who get so they don't give a damn what you tell them."

"Drivers should lead regular lives when racing. No 2 a.m. drinking, heavy smoking and having a general good time on the day of a race. I have seen a lot of drivers like that. You could never change them now."

Among the "youngsters" with whom Mr. Parravano is negotiating are Cesare Perdisi, Fernando Minelli, and Giorgio Scarlati, of Italy, and Tony Brooks of Britain.

No one outside Britain had ever heard of Brooks before he won the Syracuse Grand Prix (Sicily) this October, but he drove like a master. I have talked with him briefly, without making any offer, but he is a student dentist, and I do not think he wants to drive full-time.

Mr. Parravano agreed that he had made offers to the British Champion, Stirling Moss, runner-up to Argentinean Manuel Fangio in the 1955 World Championship, Peter Collins, of Britain, who also drove Mercedes cars, and Italy's Eugenio Castellotti, who came third in the Championships.

Of his reported offers to Moss and Castellotti of 50,000,000 lire (£28,750 sterling; 80,000 dollars) each for an engagement fee, he said: "Reports are usually wild, but it would be bad business at this stage to reveal details of my offers."

"No contracts have been signed and no offers accepted yet," he emphasised. "Racing is a business to these boys and they are out shopping for the best deal at present. They naturally want the best money and conditions, with the best cars, so they take a good look round."

He said that the engagement of Carol Shelby, of Dallas, Texas, and Marston Gregory, of Kansas City, both internationally experienced drivers, and of Ken Miles, a young Briton who has won 50 per cent of his 1,400 cc races in the United States, did not present any problems.

## AMATEUR GAME

"In the United States there is a number of young drivers as good as any driving today. But racing is an amateur game there and guys have little competition experience."

Mr. Parravano said that he intends to enter cars in "all Grand Prix races, sports car Championship events, and some other leading competitions" in the 1956 season.

Asked what hopes he had, he replied: "When you do racing for sport, you want to win all the races. It is not a commercial affair for me. I get my fun by winning. I shall probably win a few races, maybe a lot. You never know."

He declined to give an idea of the enormous expense needed to buy, run, service and transport his cars, and pay drivers.

"I have a good business. I take care of it. I do not want to be one of those playboys forgetting all about business. My business pays for the racing anyway."

Before the European events, Mr. Parravano's cars will probably compete in the Sebring 12 hours and, if run, in the Argentine Grand Prix.—China Mail Special.

## "Man Tsai" Ready To Represent Hongkong

Cheung Kin-man ("Man Tsai") of the Fortuna Club who is at present in Taipei, in a letter to the Hon. Secretary of the Hongkong Amateur Swimming Association, Mr. Harold Wingloe, assured them that he has been training hard for the forthcoming Olympics. This was revealed at the Executive Committee meeting held at the Club Lusitano yesterday and which was presided over by Mr. A. de O. Sales.

Cheung further ascertained that he will come to Hongkong for any trials if and when required.

So far only three clubs have signified their intention of training swimmers for the Olympics. They are South China, Lai Tuen and Chinese YMCA.

Up to date only Lai Tuen Club has submitted names for the training during the winter. The swimmers are: Liu Man-nung, Ng Yuen-ting and Ng Kit-ching (Wimona). This club started training since last month.

## HARBOUR RACE

Mr. Sales emphasised that all competitors who have not collected their certificate for the Harbour Race must do so on or before January 31. They should contact Mr. Ed. Roza, c/o the Saseon Banking Co., Ltd., Holland House, as soon as possible.

A representative from South China asked the Committee whether Wan Shu-min, who has represented Taiwan, in the Asian Games, could represent Hongkong in the Olympics. Mr. Wingloe requested the party concerned to write to the Association officially.

Mr. Wingloe informed the meeting that Hongkong's entry in the Olympics has been confirmed by the Olympic Committee.

The first trial for the Hongkong swimmers will probably be held sometime in April next year and the final selection would be in July. Tentative dates for the following meetings have been set: Council meeting on January 24, and the Annual General Meeting on February 17.

## Poland Well Represented In Winter Olympics

Warsaw, Dec. 29

Poland will be represented by between 48 and 51 sportsmen at the Winter Olympic Games at Cortina, Italy, next month, M. Rezek, President of the Polish General Committee of Physical Education, announced at a press conference here today.

The Polish team would be made up as follows: 25 skiers, 17 ice hockey players, and a number of biathletes. The team will be decided after the Salztz Moritz championship.

M. Rezek said Polish Winter Games sportsmen would take part in a number of events abroad in preparation for the Winter Olympics. Polish competitors would be allowed to choose their own equipment—Polish or foreign.

Poland hoped to come "among the second ten in the Winter sports events," Rezek added.—France-Press.

## THE GAMBOLS

by Barry Appleby

I ALWAYS ENJOY THESE OUTRAGES WITH YOU.

SPECIALLY WHEN YOU'RE GOING TO BE AT THE OFFICE.

QUICK, HAVE A HEAD.

THAT WAS THE CHIEF CLERK'S REACTION WITH HIS WIFE.

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CIDER

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## THE GAMBOLS

by Barry Appleby



## SPORTS ROUNDOUP

By CORNERING PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS...

## OVER ZEALOUS SERVICES' SPORTS OFFICERS ARE MAKING THEMSELVES UNPOPULAR

Says W. CAPEL KIRBY

Over-zealous Services' sports officers are making themselves unpopular by cornering professional footballers on National Service and turning them out in large numbers against civvy clubs in County Cup and League competitions.

This is particularly prevalent in Hampshire where, following protests, the authorities seriously contemplate restricting Services' teams to two or three professionals. And rightly so, in my opinion.

"We'll be clear of the bottom before the end of the season," declares Barrow boss Joe Harvey, who is seeking an outside-right and centre-forward.

An still receiving "Footballer of the Year" suggestions. "For consistency, loyalty and gentlemanly conduct, I recommend Jackie Milburn," writes Tyneside reader Ron Porter.

How many fans of the Border know that Hibs have reached the semi-final of the European Club Championship, the lucrative competition Chelsea were talked out of by the Football League?

Advice to Alick Jeffrey—be blind to that Melbourne Olympic mirage and sign professional for Doncaster on January 29, your 17th birthday. Other honours will come your way.

Home sickness was the reason Peter Jackson allowed Graham Williams, Welsh youth and schoolboy international, to be left to leave Bradford City. That Williams has gone back to his old job at Greenford should interest once keen Liverpool or Everton.

"Fancied myself as a footballer, but did stop me," said Brian London after taking another quick start towards the British Heavyweight title at Harringay. This former Blackpool amateur inside-forward now confines his Soccer activities to watching Stanley Matthews and Co.

Raymond Deschamps was on offer at £250 in the close season. Today bidders could add another nought and Grimsby wouldn't be the least interested. Now a fixture at left back, this Channel Islander was signed from Nottingham Forest as a left-winger and has played at centre-forward.

FASTISH? My contention that Jackie Henderson (Portsmouth) is

Britain's fastest footballer is contested by several Birmingham fans, who reckon Eddie Brown to be quicker.

Tommy Cahill, former Newcastle full-back, and Les Wood, 21-year-old goalkeeper from Huddersfield, are interesting First Division club recruits.

Well done AAA! Prearranged pace-making was killing the art of tactical running, enthusiasm of rank and file and the true amateur spirit. Much more of the Bankster, Chatterbox, Pirie business would have killed athletics.

When Peterborough's players go on golf outings they take their own pro.

Their groundman, Ben Poole, former Preston full-back, is also golf professional at Burghley Park, Stamford.

News that Harold Hasall will never play again was occupying Bobby Cowell's thoughts as we chatted in London last week.

Newcastle's full-back, who had his leg badly smashed up at Nuremberg last close season, said: "I'm fighting to get back into the game, but deep down I fear the worst."

Bobby finds little consolation in knowing that the German who "killed" him received four months' suspension.

Still they come. Miss Pat Stanford, of Walsall-on-Tyne supports Jackie Milburn's "Footballer of the Year" candidature. She concluded with "Howway the lads and vor Jackie!"

Not so Mr F. Williams, of Chorltonville, who thinks Stanley Mortensen worthy of the "Footballer of the Year"

title as a "supreme example of clean, vigorous and never-give-up play." Any complaints?

Liverpool would like inside-forward Wally Fielding to join them from across the Park, but Everton are not keen, although not unwilling to part with the Londoner.

Peterborough's tall young goalkeeper complained of insufficient action with the reserves. "Right, now, we'll soon remedy that," said manager George Swindin.

Twenty-four hours later Donaldson, Gibson, Emery and Co. put 13 shots past him in a First Team v. Reserves pre-Cup practice match.

"Son" was the correct mode of address, since the complainant was young Les Swindin, a flustered convert.

Barnsley keep getting inquiries for brightly outside-right Arthur Kaye, candidate for Young England against Scotland's Under 23's at Hillsboro on February 8. "Nothing doing," says manager Tim Ward.

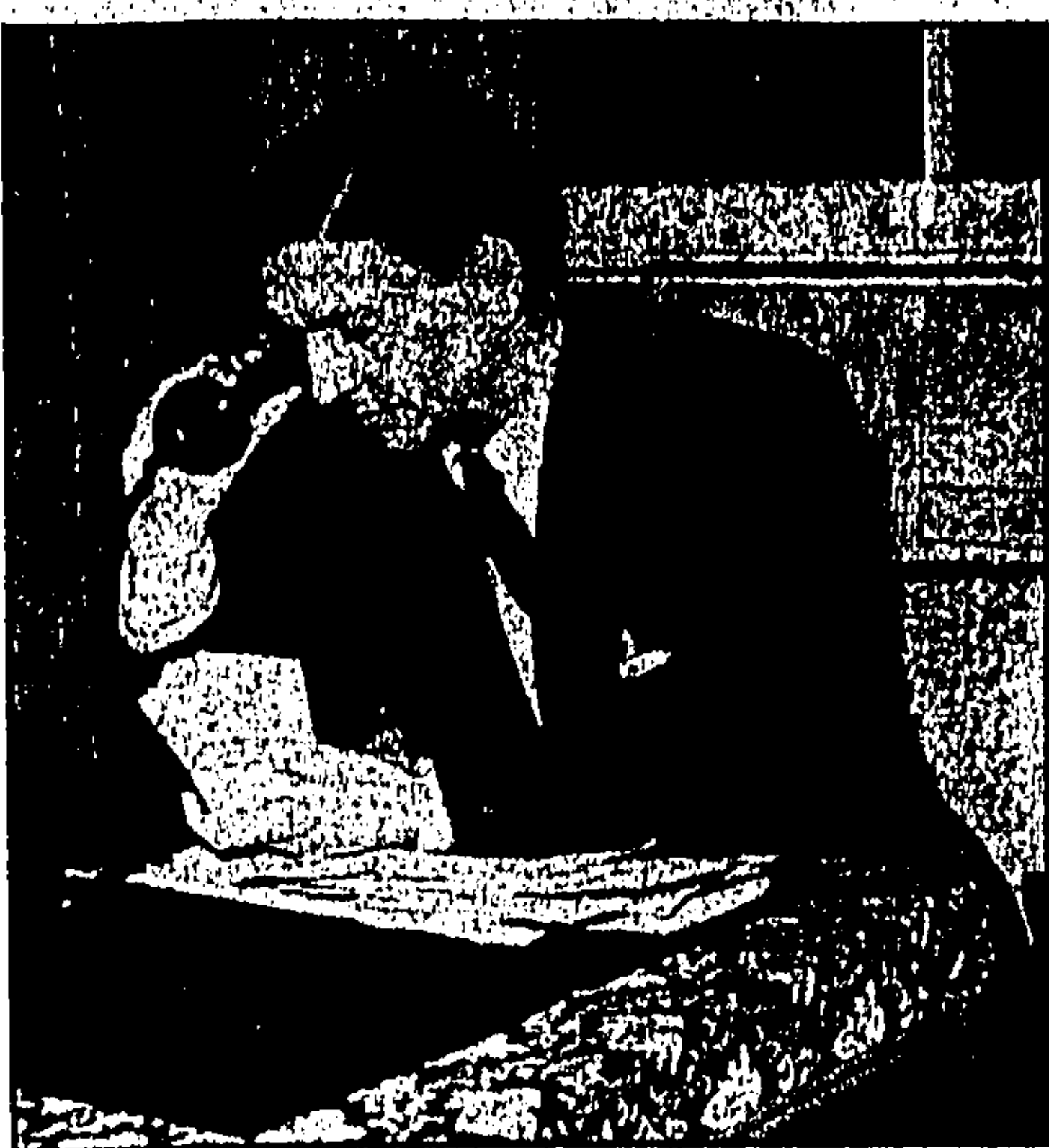
English clubs have quickly sized up the situation of Maxwell Murray being a Rangers reserve yet considered good enough to lead Young Scotland's attack.

Brian Redfern, local boy making good at Bradford, is being watched by First Division clubs looking for goal-conscious left-wingers.

Scottish interest in Bedford Cup triumphs is that skipper Johnny Crighton was formerly with Aldridge and Morton. He set up business as a master builder in Oxford while "glant-killing" with Headington.

"One advantage of flood-lighting will be a uniform hour of kick-off" is an extract from my book The Mighty Kick, published in 1935. Here's another prediction for 1975—synthetic pitches will be under consideration to beat the weather.

## TEAM MANAGER OF ARSENAL



The 38-year-old manager of the London Suburban Club, Leyton Orient, has been asked to take over as team manager of Arsenal — one of the plum jobs in British football. Tom Whittaker, Arsenal's 57-year-old manager-secretary, would continue, with Stock concentrating on running the first team.

The offer — one of the best-kept secrets in football, is being considered by Stock. In addition to a salary in the £2,000 a year class, Stock would have prospects of taking over full control when Mr Whittaker eventually retires.

It is understood that Stock is reluctant to leave Leyton, now London's most successful Club, which under his management is at present heading the Third Division of the British Football League.

In March last year Stock refused an offer to take over the management of the Second Division team, Middlesbrough.

Leyton Orient, in the middle of a promotion drive, will fight to keep their "wonder-manager" who they feel is worthy of full control of a First Division Club — and nothing else.—Express Photo.

## Perez Can Become A Millionaire If He Meets Britain's Dai Dower

Says SYDNEY HULLS

Pascual Perez, Argentine's black-haired assassin of the ring, could become a million-peso kind in one hour — if only he would agree to defend his World Flyweight Championship against Dai Dower in Great Britain.

Perez has been guaranteed a million-peso purse (£9,000) for the fight, but he and his manager, Ismael Pace, still have not agreed to the match.

Yet in the Argentine Perez receives only around one-sixth of that sum for his fights.

What is the trouble? Only that Perez is still very much amateur-minded, although it is seven long fighting years since he suffered friends and officials to cut off chunks of his hair and buffet him about with towels to make the Flyweight limit and go on to win an Olympic title at Wembley.

This true-blue amateur spirit is the bane of the professional promoter. If a fighter puts first the rear of the crowd and the glory of winning for his country, what is there left to lure

## £9,000 BAIT

Certainly Perez raised all hopes after winning the World title from Japan's Yochio Shirai by stunning boldy: "I intend to be a fighting Champion and I'll give everyone a chance at the title."

But after thinking that over for a week he gave up a punch on the nose by qualifying his blow with "If Dai Dower wants a little fight he will have to come to the Argentine."

And despite promoter Solomon's £9,000 bait Perez, to date, has refused to be hooked. But all is not yet lost. A campaign has been launched in the Argentine Press to make Perez peso-conscious.

No need to probe far to find who is behind this.

Back in Britain promoter Solomon, puzzled for a while by how to overcome Perez's resistance to money, is sitting back with a smile that says: "There are more ways than one of skinning a ring tiger."

Already there are signs of a breakdown in the Perez-Pace front.

Pace now admits that if Perez holds his title against Filipino Leo Ephraim at the turn of the year, he must seriously consider staking the Championship against Dower in Britain.—(London Express Service).

## Spen Valley Can Prove A Great Stayer

Says JAMES PARK

After the Middle Park Stakes I was discussing the race with one of our leading trainers. We talked about the great tussle between the three leaders, and then my trainer-friend remarked: "If I had my choice of that lot I should pick Spen Valley."

The colt had finished fifth of six, so naturally I wanted to know why. I had a shrewd suspicion what the answer would be and it was forthcoming.

The reason was that Spen Valley appeared to have more scope for improvement than any of those who finished in front of him. For myself, I might have made an exception in the case of Edmundro. It is possible that Spen Valley will prove a stouter colt than Edmundro in their second season.

On the official estimate Spen Valley is the best two-year-old trained in Yorkshire. He is a fine big chestnut colt trained by Richard Peacock, the third of his generation to have occupied the Manor House at Middleham. His father was the worthy Matthew and his grandfather Dobson.

It could well be that Spen Valley will prove to be the best colt young Richard has had in his short career as a trainer.

## GOOD REPUTATION

The policy adopted with the colt gives some idea of what was thought of him. He would not have run for races like the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster and the Middle Park unless he enjoyed a good home reputation. The sound Yorkshire policy is not to run horses out of their class.

It was only after a good race that Spen Valley went under to Russian in the Champagne, after which both colts were found to be coughing.

Spen Valley was still in the developing stage when he ran at Doncaster. He had lined down a lot when he ran at Newmarket — perhaps a little too much for my liking. That, of course, is just a personal opinion.

The pace was always too good for the Yorkshire colt in the Middle Park, but he is not really bred to be a two-year-old. He is by Precipitation out of Colombe by Colombo out of Path of Peace by Winalot, a son of Son-in-Law. The dam is brown and the sire and dams in the next two generations are all either bay or brown.

## LIKE PRECIPITATION

Spen Valley is a chestnut, like his sire and, without suggesting there is much in the way of resemblance, the two-year-old is just such another as was Precipitation at the same age.

If Spen Valley develops as I anticipate during the winter he will be a commanding three-year-old, and it is at distances up to at least a mile and a half that I shall expect him to shine.

I doubt whether he has the speed to take him to the top class, but he should make much headway and prove a grand staying three-year-old.

Sam Armstrong's two-year-olds did not turn out as well as I expected, and Monterey was probably the best of them. Whether such will prove to be the case I do not know as I prefer to judge two-year-olds.

## Not For Them

Blackpool assistant manager Sam Jones and International winger Bill Perry went to Amsterdam to welcome Perry's South African compatriot George Hauser, off the Johannesburg plane. Hauser has joined Blackpool from Cape Town. The flags were flying and the bands playing when the Blackpool pair got to Holland, but the celebrations were not for them. Queen Juliana, and Prince Bernhard, just arrived from the East Indies.

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## NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

The Programme and Entry Forms for the 5th Race Meeting 1955/56 to be held on Saturday, 14th January, 1956, (weather permitting) may be obtained at the Secretary's Office, Alexandra House; the Club House, Happy Valley; and the Stables, Shan Kwong Road.

Entries close at 12 o'clock NOON on Wednesday, 4th January, 1956.

By Order of the Stewards,  
A. E. ARNOLD,  
Secretary.

## THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

FOURTH RACE MEETING

Tuesday 27th December, 1955 &amp; Monday 2nd January, 1956

(To be held under the Rules of the Hong Kong Jockey Club)

THE PROGRAMME WILL CONSIST OF 20 RACES.

The First Bell will be rung at 11.30 a.m. and the First Race run at 12.00 Noon on both days.

The Tiffin interval is after the Fourth Race (1.30 p.m.) each day.

The Secretary's Office at Alexandra House will close at 10.00 a.m. on both days.

## MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE

NO PERSON WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED. All persons MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the meeting.

Admission Badges at \$10.00 each per day are obtainable through the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a Member, such member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him.

Tiffins will be obtainable at the Club House if ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 72811).

NO CHILDREN will be admitted to the Club's premises during the Meeting. For this purpose a Child is a person under the age of seventeen years, Western Standard.

## PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission will be \$3.00 each per day, payable at the Gate.

Any person leaving the Enclosure will be required to pay the requisite fee of \$3.00 in order to gain re-admission.

MEALS and REFRESHMENTS will be obtainable in the RESTAURANT.

## SERVANTS

Servants must remain in their employer's boxes except for passing through on their duties. They may on no account use the Betting Booths in the Members' Enclosure.

## CASH SWEEPS

Through Cash Sweep Tickets at \$20.00 each per day and \$40.00 for both days may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Office at Queen's Building, (Chater Road), and 5, D'Aguiar Street during normal office hours and until 10.00 a.m. on the day of the Race Meeting.

Particular numbers within the series 1 to 3,000 may be reserved for all race meetings as Through Tickets. Such tickets will be issued consecutively only and the right is reserved by the Stewards to cancel any reservation for Through Tickets for a particular Meeting if it is found that sales may not reach the number reserved in the series 1 to 3,000.

In the case of two-day Race Meetings, Through Tickets may be purchased for each day of the Meeting provided that the second day is on a date not less than five days after the first day. In all other cases Through Tickets will only be sold for the whole Meeting.

Tickets reserved and available but not paid for by 10.00 a.m. on Saturday, 24th December, will be sold and the reservation cancelled for future Meetings.

Tickets over 3,000 will also be issued consecutively but particular numbers cannot be reserved as Through Tickets.

The reservation of any particular number does not confer on the registered holder any rights whatsoever unless the ticket bearing the appropriate number is issued to and can be produced by the holder.

The Stewards reserve the right to refuse any subscription also the right to remove any name from subscription lists without stating reasons for their action.

Cash Sweep Tickets on the last race of the Meeting at \$2.00 each may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Office at Queen's Building, (Chater Road), 5, D'Aguiar Street and 382, Nathan Road during normal office hours and until 10.00 a.m. on both days of the Meeting.

## SPECIAL CASH SWEEP

Tickets for the Special Cash Sweep on the Pearce Memorial Cup scheduled to be run on 4th February 1956, at \$2.00 each, may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Office.

## TOTALISATOR

Backers are advised not to destroy or throw away their tickets until after the "all clear" signal has been exhibited.

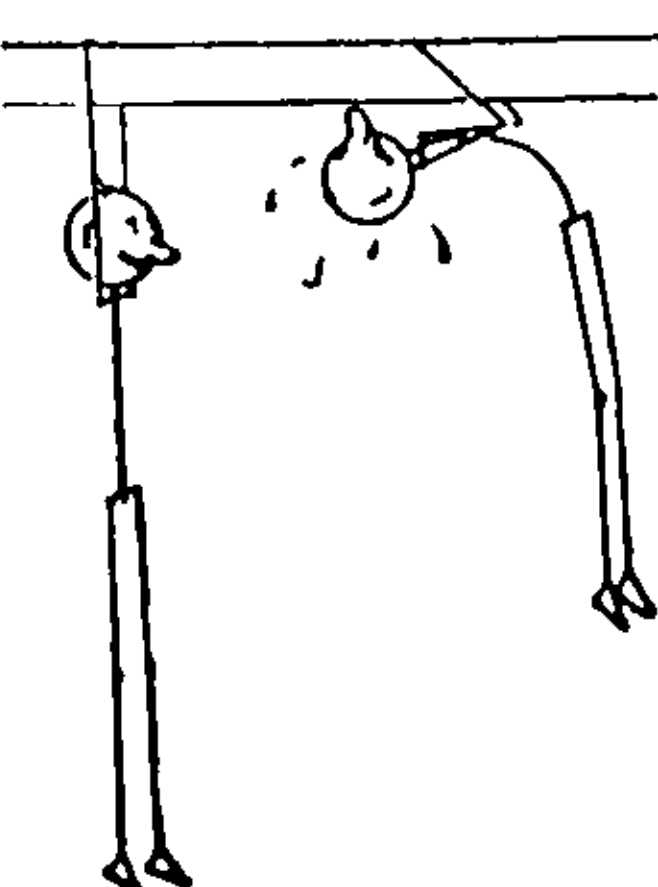
ALL WINNING TICKETS AND TICKETS FOR REFUND MUST BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT AT THE RACE COURSE ON THE DAY TO WHICH THEY REFER, NOT LATER THAN ONE HOUR AFTER THE TIME FOR WHICH THE LAST RACE OF THE DAY HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO BE RUN.

PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE MADE ON TORN OR DISFIGURED TICKETS.

Bookmakers, Tif Tif men, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

By Order of the Stewards,  
A. E. ARNOLD,  
Secretary.

Following LINDSAY HASSETT'S report on PT for Australian cricketers, comes a lesson from Denmark.



## Now then, you lazy cricketers

By BRUCE HARRIS

ILLUSTRATION A: Pulling up with cross grip.

Imagine, if you can, a large and lumbering You-Know-Who of some English county cricket side, behaving like the gentleman in the illustrations in an attempt to get into condition to beat the Australians next summer.

I have never seen the like in touring our county grounds each spring time; but over in Denmark things are different. Mr. J. J. Hankinson, of Canford, who goes to that country every August to help the Danes in their cricket, has sent me a 4000-word booklet showing that the Danes intend to live laborious winter days.

They have commissioned Mr. Aksel Bjerregaard, a condition-training expert, to prescribe a series of exercises to make batsmen, bowlers, wicketkeepers and fieldsmen do their work without strain and tiredness. The booklet is his.

The Dansk Cricket-Forbund—otherwise the Danish Cricket Association—has a foreword which says with a hint of reproach:

"It has not been possible for us to obtain aid and inspiration from cricket's motherland, such as we have obtained in matters technical, as it seems that no one there has considered the question of physical training specially with an eye to the physical condition of the cricketer."

## Some samples

Here are some sample exercises into which, I know, our county pros will plunge with a sigh:

"The head is turned sideways 90 degrees and pressed a little backwards."

"Ide face down with the feet anchored under a heavy piece of furniture. Place the hands under the forehead. Now make a series of backward bends forcing the head as far away from the floor as

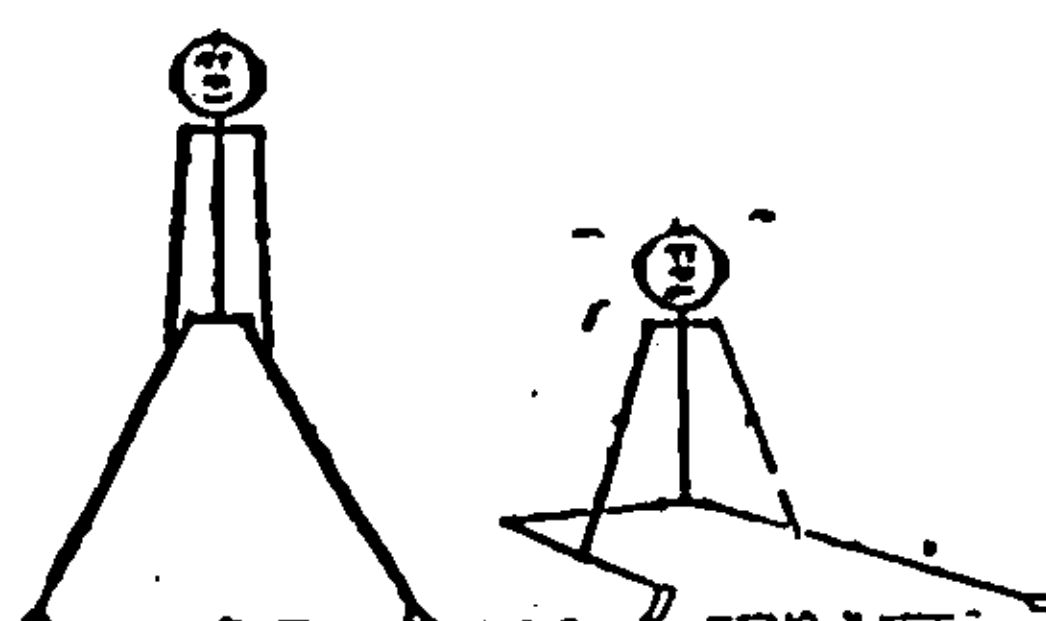


ILLUSTRATION B: Right knee bend—left knee bend.

possible. If you wish to make the exercise more difficult (an unlikely contingency), perform it with the arms above the head.

"Lie on the back on the floor with arms stretched out to the side, and legs together out to one side. Now with a lightning movement the legs must be swung up and over to the same position on the opposite side of the body. A little competition as to who can do 16 swings in the shortest time is recommended."

Hopping races are laid down for bowlers. For fieldsmen the exercise is illustrated as a few drops of sweat and all is recommended. It is called "Pulling up with cross grip."

"The body should be bent back so that the thighs hang

directly beneath the beam with chest as near to it as possible. . . . Do not overdo it at first."

The last sentence will be gladly accepted. For "building up" leg and thigh muscles: With legs wide apart, perform alternate right knee bend, left knee bend, as illustrated B. Bend the knee as deeply as possible, trying to sit on the foot of the bent leg. The other leg should be kept fairly straight, body upright and facing front. Repeat the exercise several times, then vary it by changing from one leg to the other without rising."

Danes have "got something" here. I look forward to the day when an English side will go on an overseas tour without a trainer with power over this and that of his men. Only then will our cricketers be 100 per cent instead of 90 per cent fit.

## HK And Kowloon Garrison Team

The following have been selected to represent the Hong-kong and Kowloon Garrison versus the remainder of the Army South in a friendly cricket match at Sookunpoo on Monday commencing at 11 a.m. Major Pinniger, Capt Dowling, S/Sgt Fox, Lt. Thomas, Lt. Martin, Lt. Carr, Lt. Carruthers, Major Ball, Lt. Johnston, Lt. Lewis, Lt. Boxall (Capt).

12th man: Gnr Downer. Umpire Capt. Ship.

## A HAPPY - 1956 - NEW YEAR MOZART BICENTENARY YEAR

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KENTNER

(pianist)

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## NOTICE

## BANK HOLIDAY

The Exchange Banks will be  
closed for the transaction of  
public business on Monday,  
the 2nd January, 1956. (The  
first week day in January).

Hongkong, 30th Dec., 1955.

## To ADVERTISERS

SUNDAY POST-HERALD  
Space for commercial  
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Get Your Next Pipeful  
of PLEASURE  
**SKIPPER**  
from any leading  
TOBACCONISTS.

## Brazilian Film Star Marries Man From Prison Cell

Sao Paulo, Dec. 29.  
Prisoners in a gaol here gazed open-  
mouthed through the bars of their cells at  
an unusual scene.

On the prison patio they  
saw one of their fellow-  
prisoners, tall dark and  
good-looking as a film star,  
and held for alleged complicity  
in a murder, embrace  
and kiss a glamorous blonde  
who is a real-life Brazilian  
film and radio star.

What the prisoners had not  
seen was the brief marriage  
ceremony which now made the  
prisoner and the actress man  
and wife in a small, crowded  
notary's office not far from the  
gaol.

The newly-weds kissed again,  
and that kiss made the front  
pages in headlines and pictures  
in Brazil, where some weeks  
ago a big news story was con-  
cerned with an editor running  
his newspaper from his prison  
cell.

## Court To Decide

The bride was 31-year-old  
Theo Braga (full name  
Sebastiana Theresa Braga  
Costa) who was born in the  
Brazilian town of Jau, and the  
bridegroom was Jorge de  
Martino.

A few years ago, Jorge was  
sentenced to a 21-year term of  
imprisonment on a charge of  
being concerned in the murder  
of a girl. That sentence was  
subsequently suspended and  
early next year the Courts will  
decide whether or not Jorge  
can go free.

Some time ago, Theo Braga  
was visiting the prison. Walk-  
ing along a corridor, she saw a  
young man in one of the cells.  
It was Jorge.

"I thought he was very good-  
looking," she said later. "and he  
gave me a big smile, which I  
returned. That was the be-  
ginning of our romance."

The courtship with him  
inside the prison and her out-  
side, ended for them on a recent  
morning when they met  
on the prison patio preparatory  
to making the short trip to the  
marriage office.

The bride exercised her  
privilege of being a few minutes  
late. She was wearing a light  
tulle summer dress and a  
wide brimmed black velvet hat.  
A big crowd followed the  
beauteous couple from the  
prison to the marriage office.  
Walking near the bridegroom  
was Senor Fernando Jose  
Fernandes, Director of the pri-  
son, a big smile on his face.

The procession had to cross  
one of the busiest avenues  
in bustling Sao Paulo, which now  
claims to be a bigger city than  
the capital, Rio de Janeiro —  
and stopped the traffic.

The ceremony was conducted  
by a serious young notary who  
admitted that he had just com-  
pleted his law studies.

"I never imagined that I  
should start my career with an  
unusual wedding like this," he  
said.

The newly-weds returned to  
the prison, where there was a  
marriage festa with an  
elaborate wedding cake. Then,  
after a brief honeymoon, Jorge  
went back to his cell just  
before dusk.

## Second Wedding

Senhor and Senhora de  
Martino will now be seeing one  
another on prison visiting days.  
They are hoping that as a  
result of the re-hearing of  
Jorge's case, he will be set free.

If that happens, they will  
have a second wedding, this  
time in church—China Mail  
Special.

## CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WAS MISSING

Bonn, Dec. 29.  
Increased American military  
and German police patrols  
will prevent "everything they can to  
prevent a recurrence" this  
weekend of German-American  
friction that brought a rash of  
incidents over the Christmas  
holidays, American officials  
said today.

The officials said German  
authorities met with US military  
and civil affairs representatives  
today to work out a solution to  
the disturbances which were  
diminished last night with the  
throwing of stink bombs into  
local military police head-  
quarters.

At least 15 fights between  
Germans and US soldiers were  
reported in the last few days,  
and at least one German was  
injured after he was hit by a  
thrown bottle—United Press.

## WORLD COTTON MARKETS

New York, Dec. 29.  
Cotton futures worked  
irregularly higher today  
after a mixed start, al-  
though overall activity re-  
mained on the quiet side.

NEW YORK  
Prices of cotton futures closed  
today as follows:  
Spot 35.00  
Mar 33.00  
May 32.25  
Jul 31.87-89  
Oct 30.14  
Dec 29.90  
Mar 29.75  
May 29.57

NEW ORLEANS  
Prices of futures closed today  
as follows:  
Spot 33.00  
Mar 31.00  
May 30.25-32  
Jul 29.87  
Oct 28.14  
Dec 27.90  
Mar 27.75  
May 27.57

LIVERPOOL  
Future closings, in pence per  
lb. were as follows:  
Old contract:  
December/January 29.00  
March/April 28.00  
May/June 27.00  
July/August 26.00  
New contract:  
May/June 28.00  
July/August 27.00  
October/November 26.00  
January/February 25.00

SAO PAULO  
Future closings, in cruzeiros  
per kilo were as follows:  
March 29.20  
May 28.20  
July 27.20  
October 26.20

In the US, the average price  
of 15/16 middling cotton at 14  
designated spot markets was \$3.77  
cents. Sales totaled 15,032 bales.  
—United Press.

## QUIET TRADING IN LONDON

London, Dec. 29.  
Stocks closed mostly firm in quiet  
dealings on the London Exchange today.

Activity centred on industrials, although  
English Government stocks and foreign bonds also  
had brief moments in the limelight.

Industrials generally moved  
higher, with engineering shares  
attracting good support. Hud-  
son's Bay, Borax Consolidated,  
and Electric & Musical In-  
dustries posted gains. But

## New York Sugar Market

New York, Dec. 29.  
World No. 4 sugar futures to-  
day closed 1 point lower to 1  
point higher with sales of 36 con-  
tracts.

Domestic No. 6 closed 1 point  
lower to 1 point higher with  
sales of 80 contracts.

In world raws, dealers under-  
stood bids for further quantities  
placed with the Cuban Sugar  
Institute at 3.25 cents a pound  
were without action by the  
Institute.

Other Havana trade reports  
said progress has been made to-  
ward settlement of the Cuban  
mill and dock workers strike.  
Some agreement reportedly has  
been reached to permit dock  
workers to resume loading of  
sugar pending a final settlement.

Contract No. 4 (world)  
March 3.21  
May 3.21  
July 3.22  
Sept 3.23  
Spot (cents per lb. FOB  
Cuba) 3.23

Contract No. 6  
March 0.32  
May 0.30  
July 0.29  
Sept 0.28  
Nov 0.23  
Spot (cents per lb. CIF NY  
ex-duty) 0.23  
—United Press.

automobile shares weakened on  
reports of possible cutbacks in  
1956 American production.  
Ford Motors felt heavy selling  
and were off two shillings at  
its worst.

Oil wavered a bit, and closed  
mostly lower. Royal Dutch fell  
about 2 1/2, and other leaders  
lost around one shilling.  
Coppers and other base  
metals issues were in demand,  
but gold eased in quiet trading.  
Japanese liens were active all  
day and finished with gains rang-  
ing up to 2 1/2. German shares  
in the activity and a few issues  
advanced sharply. — United  
Press.

## London Foreign Exchange

New York, Dec. 29.  
2.80 1/2-2.80 3/4  
2.80 1/2-2.80 3/4  
11.7 1/2-11.7 3/4  
10.0 1/2-10.0 3/4  
10.0 1/2-10.0 3/4  
14.2 1/2-14.2 3/4  
12.3 1/2-12.3 3/4  
Others were unchanged—United  
Press.

## New York Foreign Exchange

New York, Dec. 29.  
Canada 81.00-81.25  
England official 2.80 1/2-2.80 3/4  
30-day futures 2.79 3/4-2.80  
90-day futures 2.78 3/4-2.79  
Belgium 200.00  
Uruguay 2800  
Others were unchanged—United  
Press.

## WORLD RUBBER MARKETS

New York, Dec. 29.  
Rubber futures today closed  
unchanged to 78 points higher  
with sales of 438 contracts.  
Speculative activity on the  
terminal market between com-  
mission houses and dealers was  
promoted by the impending  
weekend holidays and uncon-  
firmed rumours of an increase  
in the Indonesia export duty on  
rubber.

The spot market continued  
slow, with small sales in the  
forenoon including some March  
three sheets at 43 cents, with  
later offerings up to 43 1/2 cents  
going unsold. Spot No. 1 RSS  
were quoted nominally at 40  
cents a pound.

Futures:  
March 43.25-50  
May 41.40-50  
Jul 39.50  
Sept 38.50  
Dec 38.00

SINGAPORE  
The market opened quiet but  
steadied during the afternoon  
with sellers reserved.  
Futures:  
No. 1 rubber per lb. 129 1/2-129 3/4  
Jan 127 1/2-128  
Feb 127 1/2-128  
Mar 127 1/2-128  
No. 2 rubber per lb. 125 1/2-126  
Jan 124 1/2-125  
Feb 124 1/2-125  
Mar 124 1/2-125  
Spot rubber unbleached 117-118  
128-129 1/2  
Blanket crepe 105 1/2-106 1/2  
No. 1 pale crepe 139-140

LONDON  
The market was dull with spot  
at 37-7 1/2 pence per lb. Prices:  
No. 1 rubber 37 1/2-37 3/4  
Settlement house term: 37 1/2-37 3/4  
February 37 1/2-37 3/4  
March 37 1/2-37 3/4  
April/June 37 1/2-37 3/4  
July/September 37 1/2-37 3/4  
October/December 37 1/2-37 3/4  
General markets, cif basis, ports:  
January 36 1/2-37  
February 36 1/2-37  
Estate crepe thick and thin both  
unchanged

AMSTERDAM  
The market was steady.  
Prices closed today in guilders  
per kilogram, cif Jan. as  
follows:  
No. 1 rubber 3.64 paid  
No. 2 rubber 3.60 buyers  
No. 3 rubber 3.55  
No. 1 crepe 3.75  
Others were unchanged—United  
Press.

## WALL STREET WAITING FOR FORD STOCK

New York, Dec. 29.  
Stocks made a stab at a year-end rally  
today but again failed to carry through  
under pressure of a noticeable lack of  
enthusiasm.

Wall Street commentators blamed  
dullness on the absence of news of sufficient  
importance to affect the market and more  
than one noted that investors are saving  
their money for the forthcoming Ford  
stock offering.

Industrial stocks closed slight-  
ly higher on average; rails and  
utilities lower. Out of a total  
1,169 issues traded, there were  
527 lower, 380 higher on the  
day.

Only a handful moved as  
much as a point either way but  
there were a few features. US  
Gypsum fell 18 points to \$305  
on realising after stockholders  
approved the proposed five-for-  
one split. Warren Foundry lost  
more than 7 points, also on  
profit-taking after a stock split  
proposal.

## Trading Increased

Trading increased somewhat  
over yesterday but still was  
light at 3,190,000 shares com-  
pared with 1,990,000.

There were few featured  
groups. Papers had some  
strong spots with Crown Zeller-  
bach and Union Bag around 2  
each.

In steels, Youngstown Sheet  
and Tube fell 1 1/2. Motors  
moved narrowly.

General Motors again was the  
most active issue, followed by  
Sperry Rand and Electric &  
Musical Industries.  
New York Stock Exchange  
bond volume was \$3,680,000.

American Stock Exchange volume was 1,000,000 shares were:	
30 Industrials	484.50
20 rails	103.10
15 stocks	8.50
65 bonds	171.50
40 bonds	96.11
Comm. future price index	152.38
Comm. spot price index	151.50
Moody's index	406.50

## Closing Prices

Alden Inc. Acy.	12 1/2
Allied Chemical	34
Allied Mills Ind.	34
Allis Chalmers	67 1/2
American Airline	24
American Cyanamide Co.	67
Am. Mach. & F. Dry	20 1/2
American Tel. & Tel.	60 1/2
American Smelting	40 1/2
Am. Sugar Ref.	48 1/2
Armstrong	180 1/2
American Tob. "B"	80 1/2
Anacostia Copper	70
Armco Steel	64 1/2
Baldwin-Lima-Ham.	17 1/2
Cal. Tractor	14 1/2
Bendix Aviation Corp.	67 1/2
Benguet Cons.	10 1/2
Bethlehem Steel	78 1/2
Burgess Add. Machine	30 1/2
Case (J. I.) Co.	15
C.I.T. Financial Corp.	47
Case (J. I.) Co.	15
Celanese Corp.	21 1/2
Chase Manhattan Bank	51 1/2
Colgate-Palmolive Co.	50 1/2
Commercial Credit	60 1/2
Continental Ed.	41 1/2
Continental Oil of Del.	47 1/2
Continental Steel	40 1/2
Corn Products	28 1/2
Crown Zellerbach	37 1/2
Cuban Amer. Sugar	14 1/2
Curtis Wright	25
Dow Chemicals	49 1/2
Dupont de Nemours	27 1/2
Eastman Kodak	61 1/2
El Paso National Gas	22 1/2
Erie Railroad	42 1/2
General Electric	50 1/2
General Foods	40 1/2
General Motors	40 1/2
Gen. Pub. Util.	30 1/2
Gillette Safety Razor	40 1/2
Glidden	30 1/2
Goodrich (B. F.) Co.	30 1/2
Goodyear Tire	64
Heiden Chemical	18 1/2
Hercules Mining Co.	30 1/2
Ingersoll-Rand	84
Inland Steel Co.	60 1/2
International Col.	40 1/2
Int'l Business Machines	400
Int'l Harvester	30 1/2
International Paper	11 1/2
International Paper	11 1/2
Int'l Tel. & Tel.	20 1/2
Johns-Manville Co.	60 1/2
Kennecott Copper	30 1/2
Liggett Meyer's Tob. Co.	60 1/2
Loeb's Stores	10 1/2
Loew's Incorp.	10 1/2
Louisville & Nashville R.	60 1/2
Lowenstein & Sons	27 1/2
Meadell Iron Corp.	100 1/2
Monsanto Chemical Co.	22 1/2
Monroe-Ward	40 1/2
Motorola Inc.	42 1/2
National Lead	30 1/2
National Dairy Prod.	30 1/2
National Distillers	21 1/2
National Lead	30 1/2
Norfolk Southern	70 1/2
New York Central	40 1/2
Olin Mathieson	77
Pacific Gas & Elec.	42 1/2
Pacific Western Oil	42 1/2
Pan American Airways	17 1/2
Paramount Pictures	10 1/2
Penn. Dredge Co.	41 1/2
Penny J. C. Co.	60 1/2
Perini Bell Co.	40 1/2
Phillips Petroleum	62
Procter & Gamble	60 1/2
Public Serv. Indus.	62 1/2
Public Serv. Indus.	62 1/2
Republic Steel	47 1/2
Reynolds Metal	60 1/2
Shell Oil Co.	60 1/2
Saint Reg. Paper	43 1/2
Shuchman	50 1/2
Southern Railway	27 1/2
Southern Railway (Com.)	27 1/2
Standard Brands	30 1/2
Standard Oil of Ind.	30 1/2
Standard Oil of N.J.	10 1/2
Standard Oil of N.J.	10 1/2
Stearns Drug Co.	50 1/2
Stockholm-Packard Corp.	10 1/2
Swift & Co.	47 1/2
Texas Co.	10 1/2
Tide Water Assn. Oil	34 1/2
Twenty Century Fox Film	25 1/2
Union Pacific	100 1/2
Union Pacific Railway	100 1/2
United Aircraft	71 1/2
U.S. Line Co.	20 1/2
U.S. Rubber	61 1/2
U.S. Steel	34 1/2
U.S. Steel	34 1/2
Warner Bros.	10 1/2
West Va. Pulp & Paper	40
Woolworth	47 1/2

—United Press.

## Exchange Rates

Business wire done in the local  
monetary exchange market this  
morning at 10:30 a.m. (GMT)  
U.S. dollar, per £1 sterling  
sterling price, per \$1  
Canadian dollar, per \$1  
Australian dollar, per \$1  
Singapore (Malaya)

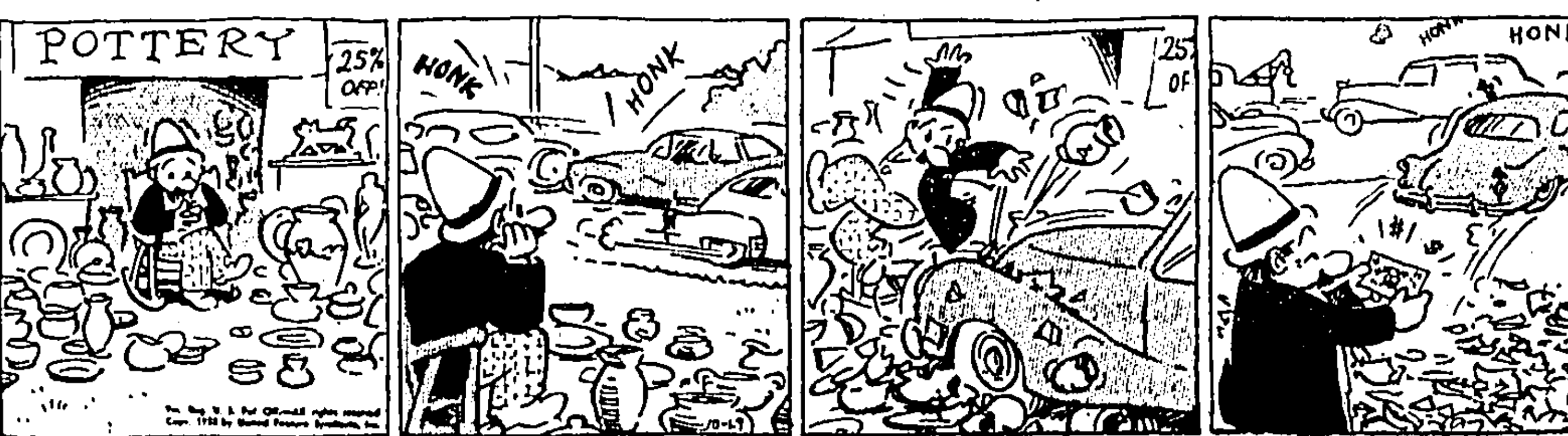
## MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



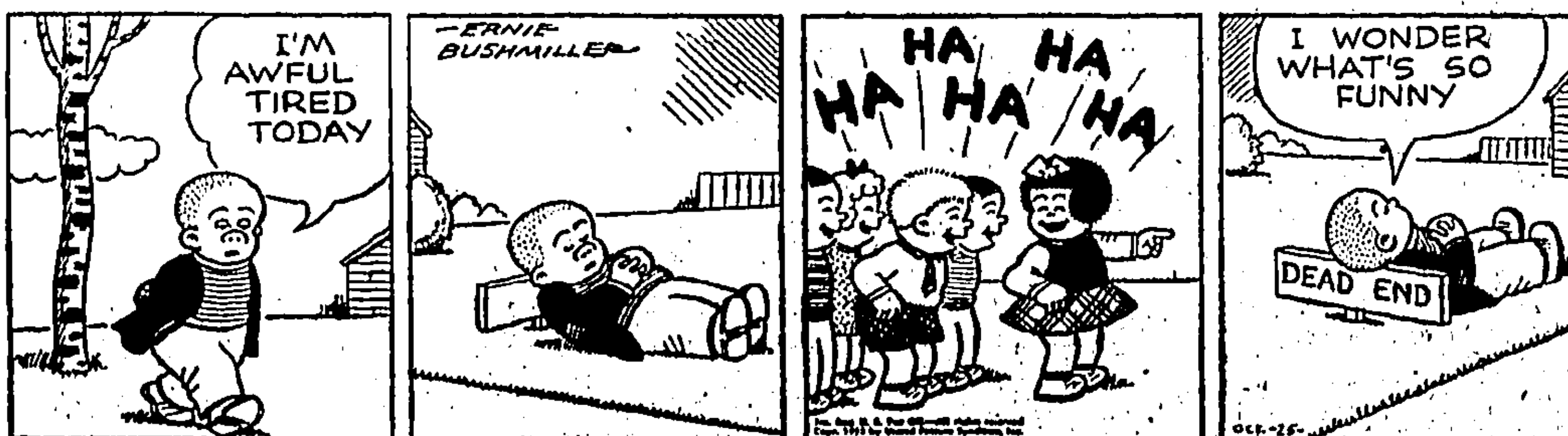
## FERD'NAND

By Milt



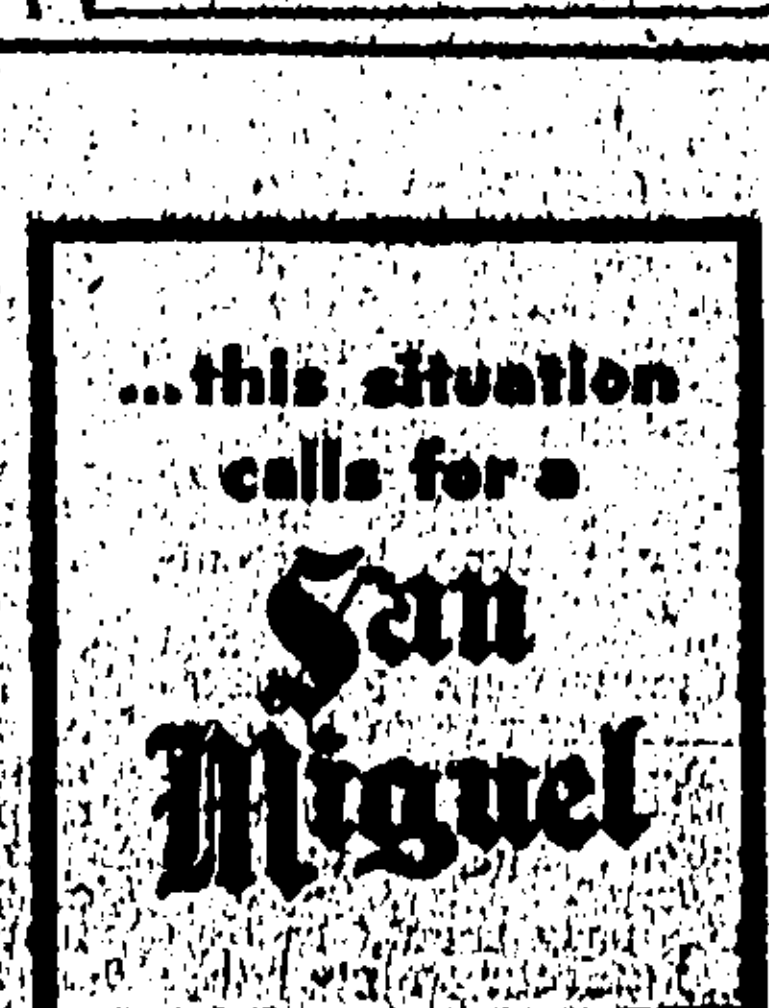
## NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



## JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins





## TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

## The Share Market—1955

## A YEAR OF CHANGING FORTUNES

By A Special Correspondent

WHATEVER good omen the year of the goat ushered in, Hongkong investors in retrospect may fairly complain that they were conspicuously absent in the second half of the year.

For 1955 will go down in Stock Exchange history as one of the most extraordinary—and to the detached observer—one of the most fascinating it has ever experienced.

The two dominant influences were:

★ the huge influx of money to the Colony from various parts of Southeast Asia, and

★ the credit squeeze.

One built the boom, the other destroyed it. Hundreds made and lost fortunes as a result of them. The losses can only console themselves with the thought that the giddy pleasure of walking a tightrope is just not worth the trouble.

In addition to being an exciting year for the speculator, the investor will notice that the aggregate distribution this year (including bonus issues and dividends) was a record. And many shares reached new post-war peaks at the heights of the mid-year boom.

In this review of the year it is not possible to mention any share in detail. The accompanying table gives you an idea of the range of movements during the year and how it compares with that of 1954.

## The Year Begins

If one were able to construct a graph of the market movements during 1955 it would look something like the one shown below. But this cannot be taken as an accurate representation because there are unfortunately no indices issued by the Stock Exchange.

The following review attempts to be a chronological account of the main events on the share market. But because it must necessarily include important company news which affected either the market as a whole or individual shares, certain details have been woven into the account of the market trend in order to preserve as near as possible the correct sequence of events.

The year began with the market undisturbed and very firm. Under the impetus of a flood of immigrant money from Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam, share values rose to the highest levels for years. Cements, for example, were then selling at \$42 or double the peak price for 1953.

In January, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank announced a one-for-four bonus issue, the first ever made by the Corporation. Prior to that its capital had been increased in four stages between 1883 and 1921 from \$5 million to \$20 million. The new issue raised capital to \$25 million by the creation of 40,000 shares of \$125 each.

Despite the encouraging effect this announcement had on the market, the upswing ended rather abruptly and a gradual recession began. Why?

Although there was an abundance of idle money in the Colony, many were reluctant to invest in the share market because of the worsening of the situation in the Formosa Straits. There were almost daily dog-fights between the Nationalist and Communist mainland and there were widespread fears following the Communist invasion and capture of Yikdangshan, that a major clash might occur.

## Formosa Fears

At about this time, it was disclosed that Mr. C. E. Marden had discussed with Government a \$6½ million harbour bridge plan. The news, however, had little effect on ferry shares which, with other utilities, suffered proportionately smaller losses than the rest of the market. It was noted that there was little selling pressure, merely a reluctance to buy on the same expansive scale as at the beginning of the year and the end of 1954.

Doubt and fear over the Formosa situation and the evacuation of the Tachen Islands continued to dominate the market in February. But towards the middle of the month, share prices began to pick up again with a number of dividend announcements in the offing.

Green Island Cement announced an increase in its distribution—from \$2 in 1953 to \$2.50 with a \$1.50 bonus and a one-for-two bonus issue—for 1954. Soon after this, China Provident announced its bonus issue (one-for-four) and the Hongkong Hotel Company, having received its first instalment of \$1.1 million for the sale of its Pedder Street site, paid a dollar dividend instead of 50 cents in the previous year.

A group of investors felt the dividend should have been higher and launched a cornering operation in the market with the object of gaining a controlling interest in the company to bring about a more liberal dividend policy. It did not succeed.

At the end of February, with the dividend season virtually over, lingering fears over the Formosa situation caused a further slide in share prices. There was a temporary lull in the flood of spare money coming to Hongkong. Profit-taking set in and share prices fell to a low ebb.

In March, Wheelock Marden & Co. Ltd. announced the transfer of control of one of the Colony's oldest utility companies, the Hongkong and China Gas Co. Ltd. from London to Hongkong, having acquired a majority of its shares on the London market.

Yaumatt Ferry Company announced a final dividend of \$5 (against \$4 for 1953) which, with a \$3 interim, made \$8 for the year. At the same time it announced its long expected bonus issue of one-for-two. Soon after Yaumatt and Star Ferry suffered a setback when Government announced that a British expert had come to the Colony to investigate the feasibility of a harbour tunnel scheme.

## And Then The Boom

The big mid-year boom began in April. At the beginning of the month, United announced a one-for-one bonus issue. And at about the same time U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, clarified Far Eastern policy by indicating that there would be no automatic commitment of American forces to the defence of the Nationalist-held offshore islands. At least this was the general interpretation of his statement.

The Bandung (also known as the Afro-Asian) conference followed soon after. At Bandung, Mr. Chou En-lai, the Chinese Prime Minister, proposed talks to settle its disputes with the United States and this move received a conciliatory response by President Eisenhower.

These developments helped to create a better atmosphere on the share market.

Another important factor in April was that inward remittances began coming in at a higher rate after a lull lasting over a month. The somewhat sudden resumption of remittances to Hongkong was largely the result of a political crisis in Saigon. And the share market gathered momentum in May.

The Conservative win in the British General Election spurred demand for shares later in the month and another encouraging event was the release of the first American prisoners by Communist China.

## Lethargy Sets In

Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf announced a distribution of \$4 a share on the completion of the sale of some company property at Lanchukok, but the market turned unexpectedly lethargic in June with a sudden stoppage of funds from Southeast Asia.

Later in the month, Hongkong Land and Investment Agency Co. Ltd. announced the purchase of Jardine's four-storey building on the corner of Pedder Street and Des Voeux Road for \$8 million. At the same time, the Land company announced a new issue of 200,000 shares, one for five at \$25 each.

And at about this time the reported loan repayments from Japan to Wheelock Marden were attracting considerable interest in Ice House Street and the shares made a good rise.

In July the boom mounted spectacularly with a resumption of inward remittances and many shares rose to their highest levels of the year. In this month the inflow of money to the Colony was described as "substantial".

The market was rising at such a rate that Banks put on \$50 in one week. A number of other shares showed rises of almost \$2 a week and the weekly turnover climbed to \$1 million.

Optimism over the Geneva "summit" conference was an added spur to investment. And at about this time there was a growing feeling in the market that the Government would not proceed with the tunnel scheme and Star Ferry and Yaumatt were slightly more active.

Quite suddenly the boom fell. And it came in the last paragraph of an almost insignificant announcement by the Colony's leading British banks.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Mercantile announced they were raising interest rates on some advances by between one and three per cent a year in an attempt to curb inflationary tendencies in the Colony's economy.

This action was primarily designed to cut down borrowing for speculative share buying and to channel investment into more economically useful enterprises.

The main reason for the imposition of the credit squeeze was that the banks felt that the share boom could end up in a crash if there were any wide sense indication of borrowers failing to meet their obligations. The move caused a sharp downturn in prices. Immediate losses were in the region of five per cent. And the turnover fell from \$14 million to \$10.7 million in a week.

The weekly market turnover continued to fall, until by early September it was only \$3.8 million. Share prices fell lower and two weeks after the announcement of credit restrictions they were about eight to ten per cent below their highs.

The fall lasted for about three weeks to a month and then the market began to even out. But it was noticeable that the operators who used to spend big money buying shares had deserted Ice House Street.

Certainly "blue chips" and possibly other "blue chips" lost a lot through heavy in-

figure of \$11,000 million on the news of the President's heart attack.

This was the second, biggest fall in Wall Street history. There was a sharp reaction on the Hongkong Stock Exchange. Brokers said the reason for this was that some saw the possibility of President Eisenhower retiring from politics and a change in American foreign policy in the Far East resulting from the change in leadership.

Dairy Farm cut its dividend from \$1 to 60 cents (but it had made a new issue earlier of one for four) and Yaumatt announced a \$2.50 dividend against a \$3 one the previous year (it made a bonus issue of one for two earlier in the year). Both announcements came as a disappointment to the market.

October was a dull month. The turnover fluctuated between

## ★ THEIR HIGHEST AND LOWEST ★

	1954	1955	December	1955	December
	High	Low	High	Low	High
HK Bank	\$2000	\$1875	\$2000	\$1875	\$1765
Lombard	940	830	915	1070	935
Union	9	0.65	9	10.00	9.80
Underwriters	20.60	18½	20.60	23½	23.30
Union Waterboat	8.30	6.70	7.40	10.70	8.40
Wheelock Marden	85½	60	85½	83	70
HK Wharf	30	16	30	30½	29.90
HK Dock	16	11.80	16	17.10	15.50
Provident	16	7.80	16	20.90	17.80
HK Hotels	70	53	69	70½	62½
HK Land	25.20	17.30	25.20	25.60	18.70
Humphreys	2.30	1.90	2.175	2.575	1.90
HK Realty	20.90	19½	22	20.30	23.00
HK Trams	159	120	159	159	130
Star Ferry	105	134	165	101	103
Yaumatt	18.70	13.40	18.70	24½	18.60
Ch Light (o)	15.60	10.30	15.60	18.20	18½
Ch Light (n)	40	27.10	40	46	33½
Electric	24½	23½	34½	37½	29
HK Telephone	41	10.10	41	48	25.30*
G. I. Cement	28½	21½	25.20	25	12
Dairy Farm	23	17.90	19	18	13.30
A.S. Watson	27.40	22.40	27.10	38	34½
Lane Crawford	6.70	5½	6.05	8.35	6.60
Yankee	4.475	3.65	4.475	6.10	4.175
Allied	8.20	6.55*	7.05*	6.80	5.40
Textile Corp	10.40	9.40	9.90	9½	7.00
Nanyang				* ex all price.	7.85

At about this time there was a new bid to corner the market in Hotel shares. Different interests were involved this time, but the object was the same—to force the company to pay a bigger dividend.

Textiles passed their dividend but during the year it bought land, erected more buildings and increased its spindleage from 13,000 to 20,000 and the market feeling was that the company had consolidated its position and better results could be expected in the next financial year.

Star Ferry announced an unchanged \$3.50 dividend and the Land dividend was an unchanged \$2.

There was a temporary return of interest early in September when the weekly turnover climbed back to \$8 million. This week was also conspicuous for

stitutional selling at about this time.

Early in September, Central Development Corporation paid off its final instalment of \$6.0 million to the Hotel company for the Pedder Street site. With a large part of the \$11 million it obtained from this sale, the Hotel company began building a 12-storey block of service flats behind the Peninsula. This building was designed as an annexe to the hotel.

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\$3 million (one of the lowest in share market history) and \$4.8 million.

In October it was revealed that Wheelock Marden, Allied Investors and the Commonwealth Investment Company, owners of about 85 per cent of the Gas Company shares, were contemplating placing about 50 per cent of the issued Gas shares on the market.

The original plan was to sell them at a price which would give a return of about seven or eight per cent. But the plan has since been delayed and the placement is not now expected until later next year.

The prospects for 1956 are, at this stage, rather hazy. But the prediction made by brokers earlier this month was that it would be a slow gradual recovery for the first few weeks.

Hongkong is unlikely to see such a tremendous inflow of money from Southeast Asia next year because most South-east Asian countries have taken steps during the year to stop flights of capital.

This fact together with the existing credit restrictions (which may be applied with varying intensity next year as the situation demands) rather suggests that the share market in 1956 is going to look rather tame by the side of this year's market.

Some To Watch

In this event, it is hard to say which class of shares will be most favoured. As always, "blue chips" will be popular at any level. With the continued improvement in the Colony's trade, wharf and dock shares and particularly Provident should do better. And if activity in land investment falls—and it is difficult to see it keeping up at the present level throughout the year—land shares may lose some of their attraction.

But for the investor there is any number of good shares on the market at the moment at bargain prices and offering fairly high yields. Textiles and Nanyang may be worth watching next year, particularly the former in view of the expansion that has taken place.

Wheelock Marden's at the present rates are a good buy. Also any one of the "blue chips" with the exception of the ferry companies. I would prefer to hear Government's decision on the tunnel first.

These shares I hope to deal with in my reports in 1956—the year of the monkey in the Chinese calendar.

One can only hope this does not turn out to be a year of similar antics.

Speculators switched their millions to another booming market, land, and much more was going into land speculation. With yields at four, five and six per cent there was little interest in the share market. And banks were sending whatever idle money they had available to London to get the benefit of high discount rates on the money market.

Also "transients" from Southeast Asia were now only "trickling in".

October was a dull month. The turnover fluctuated between

figure of \$11,000 million on the news of the President's heart attack.

This was the second, biggest fall in Wall Street history. There was a sharp reaction on the Hongkong Stock Exchange. Brokers said the reason for this was that some saw the possibility of President Eisenhower retiring from politics and a change in American foreign policy in the Far East resulting from the change in leadership.

Dairy Farm cut its dividend from \$1 to 60 cents (but it had made a new issue earlier of one for four) and Yaumatt announced a \$2.50 dividend against a \$3 one the previous year (it made a bonus issue of one for two earlier in the year). Both announcements came as a disappointment to the market.

October was a dull month. The turnover fluctuated between

## HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$480,000. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

BANKS

INSURANCES

UTILITIES

INDUSTRIALS

DOCKS, ETC.

STORES, ETC.

COTTONS

MISCELLANEOUS

LAND, ETC.

RUSSIAN

Telephone

Electric

Gas

Water

Tram

Light

Power

Telegraph

Post

Radio

Television

Amusement

Education

Health

Religion

Science

Sports

Travel

Warfare

Peace

Justice

Law

Medicine

Art

Literature

Music

Dance

Theatre

Cinema

Radio

Television

Amusement

Education

Health

Religion

Science

Sports

Travel

Warfare

Peace

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Medicine

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Radio

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Amusement

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Health

Religion

Science

Sports

Travel

Warfare

Peace

Justice

Law

Medicine

Art



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# CHINA MAIL

**SHEAFFER'S**  
**ADMIRAL "SNORKEL" PEN**

Page 10

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1955.

## JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

### OVERTIME AT CUT RATES

THERE were two courts sitting in Luton, the day I went there. At first I thought that might be just another manifestation of the town's exuberant prosperity, but both had plenty to keep them occupied, and I spent some time in each.

In the first, the day's work began with applications for extensions of drinking hours. There were so many of these that it seemed as though everyone in the town must be holding a party of some kind either on Christmas or New Year's Eve.

Weight-lifters were, so was a bank, and a domino league, and the town's cleaning department.

**WITHIN THE LAW**  
THEY all got their licenses, costing five shillings, some at cut prices, three extensions for 10 shillings. Some got more licence than they had bargained for. "Any objection?" the chairman of the bench asked the police inspector when the first application for an extension to midnight on New Year's Eve was made.

The inspector rose. "I should prefer," he said, "that this licence should not be granted until 12 o'clock, but made good until 12.15. People will want to drink the New Year in and I'd rather that were made legal."

I slipped into the other court. The four magistrates there were hearing a case of stealing from a building site, brought against a slim youth.

A police inspector was cross-examining the youth, with a remorseless eloquence and cogency that many counsel might have envied.

The case was found proved. The youth's record was called for.

"My character's as black as a chimney," he said, "I'm a person who's easily led," he cried with some passion, and burst into tears.

Before he was 12, he had been in court for wilful damage to houses, cruelty to animals, theft, and garage-breaking. Later, he went on to arson, sacrilege, and storebreaking.

**OUT OF THE CRYING**

BUT for some years the young man had kept out of trouble, had married, and now, between sobs, he told the court, he was an expectant father.

The bench waited, and after 10 minutes returned. The chairman, Mr. Herbert R. Waller, a businessman, and former High Sheriff, said to the youth: "We have made up our minds to send you to prison."

"Oh, no, no, no," the youth cried, and collapsed to his seat. "Stand up, and cut out the crying," said the chairman.

"You're first class as several things—as an actor, as a liar, as a rogue."

"I said we'd made up our minds to send you to prison. But we wondered, if we gave you a chance, whether you'd act like a man?"

"Oh, yes, sir," the youth gasped, manfully.

He was put on probation for two years.

I went back to the other court. Up the steps into a dock that looked stronghold enough to house half a dozen desperate men with safety, a slip of a fair-haired girl was escorted by a policeman.

**FENNELS**

THE girl had been found trying to sleep out the night in a disused building. A penniless waif, 17 years old.

amidst all Luton's plenty. She had got herself into about as many difficulties as in her short life it was possible to.

"I learned my lesson all right in Holloway," the slip of a girl said. She had been remanded in custody. The chairman of the bench, a retired schoolmaster, Mr. Arthur Mander, spoke to the girl very quietly.

"We are going to put you on probation," he said. "And somewhere, has been found for you to live. I hope things will be a lot happier for you in the future."

A vast thankful smile spread over the girl's face, and she was led from the formidable dock. It was as though she who had made herself outcast from the happy people about her, had been received back into their company and knew it, and was in love with the idea.

**Egypt Gets More Arms**

(Continued from Page 1)

Colonel Pawel "These weapons are being provided speedily and are helping to equip our land, sea and air forces in a way that will enable them, in the near future, to face up to any emergency."

Asked whether Egypt might enter some arrangement with Czechoslovakia for maintenance of the Soviet-type weapons it is receiving, the officer replied:

"I will make a very simple comparison for the sake of clarifying this point, which has raised so much controversy. A watch is a very complicated machine and has many delicate components. But if you are careful and provide yourself with the necessary spare parts to assure its maintenance for its presumed span of life, then you need not worry that the watch may be discarded through a premature breakdown of any of its essential parts."

"We will use (the arms) only in self defence, not for aggression. The Czechs have strictly abided by the purely commercial nature of the arms deal."

"During my stay in Prague I have noticed that the Czech leaders have carefully avoided broaching any political topic. They always changed the subject when conversation veered toward Egypt's policies. We never discussed the question of Israel but the Czech newspapers always dealt our case and condemn Israeli aggressions on the Arab States," said Col. Pawel.

**United Press.**

**Married Women Workers Increase**

Washington, Dec. 29. In the United States, 11,800,000 married women work outside their homes, the Government Statistics Department revealed here today. The figure is 600,000 up on that at the end of 1954.

The principal reason for the increase is believed to be the growing desire on the part of American wives to take part in the upkeep of their family.

Meanwhile, the number of unmarried women who work fell to 5,100,000, three hundred thousand less than last year, and 1,100,000 less than during the immediate post-war years.

**France-Press.**

## New Role For Bombay?

Bombay, Dec. 29. Bombay may become the "commercial capital" of India under a new plan to solve the present stalemate over the city's future, reliable sources said here today.

They said the plan had been "virtually agreed" by the Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, and the city's Chief Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, at a secret meeting today at the suburban seaside villa where Mr. Desai is convalescing from an illness.

It is believed that under the plan a number of government ministries would be transferred from New Delhi to Bombay, including those of commerce and industry, natural resources, scientific research and part of the ministry of defence, including naval headquarters.

Most of the staff of the ministries of finance and works, housing and supply might also be moved.

Informed sources did not rule out the possibility that one session of the Indian parliament might be held every year in Bombay.—Reuter.

## California Begins Recovering

San Francisco, Dec. 29. California's greatest reconstruction job since the earthquake of 1906 got underway over three-quarters of the State today as bulldozers cleared away wreckage and debris to make way for new building projects.

Thousands of housewives were washing away tons of mud in a mid-winter housecleaning. Federal, State and County authorities surveyed water-torn bridges and highways to see what must be done to patch up the main arteries of travel.

California was digging out from underneath. The sun shone for the second day in a row and a prediction of still more fair weather sounded a cheering note in a dismal situation, but tragedy still lurked as the official death toll rose to 74—61 in California and 13 in Oregon.

At Verona, about 15 miles north of Sacramento, a crew of 400 men were reported winning a 20-hour battle to save a Canal levee which was the only thing holding back flood waters of the Feather River from rushing clear to the outskirts of the State capital. The State Engineers' office reported that the levee crews appeared to be winning their battle.—United Press.

## Expedition Icebound

London, Dec. 29. The advance party of Britain's trans-Antarctic expedition spent the Christmas holidays icebound near Grytviiken, South Georgia, according to a message received at expedition headquarters here today.

Dr. Vivian Fuchs, leader of the advance party, cabled the position of their ship Theron as latitude 55.18° south, longitude 24.32° west on December 27.

The message said the party encountered extensive icefields on Christmas Day. The ice was impregnable on December 26.

A passage was later cut through the ice but Theron's progress was not maintained long.

Theron's Auster aircraft made a reconnaissance flight on Christmas night to find an ice-free route for the ship.

Theron was last reported idle in acres of icefields, the expedition headquarters said. Dr. Fuchs was awaiting a shift of wind to reduce ice pressure and allow him to proceed for Wainui Bay.—Reuter.

## New Year Dance

A New Year's Dance is to be held at the Prison Officers' Club tomorrow from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Admission will be \$5.50. Food and refreshments will be served.

## SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"My husband has a virus—he's doing his work at home this week!"

## In US, 1955 Became "Prosperity, Inc."

Washington, Dec. 29. Two members of the American Cabinet today summed up 1955 as one of the country's most prosperous years on record and looked forward to an equally good, if not better 12 months ahead.

Mr. Sinclair Weeks, the Secretary of Commerce, described the present business situation as one of "general prosperity" and said "the chances are bright that 1956 will be another record year."

All sections of the population, except farmers, had increased their incomes, he added. The economic outlook was "clearly excellent" for the first half of the coming year but there was a possibility that the boom might subside somewhat in the latter six months of the year.

Mr. Weeks said in his summary of 1955: "The nation's total production of goods and services rose by \$27,000 million to a total estimated at about \$387,000 million. After making allowances for price changes it appeared that actual production increased about six per cent in 1955 and was about four per cent higher than in 1953, the previous record year."

**PERSONAL INCOME**  
Personal income shot up by \$15,000 million to about \$303,000 million, a new record. Spendable income—income remaining after payment of taxes—reached \$209,000 million, six per cent more than in 1954.

The Secretary of Labour, Mr. James Mitchell, hailed 1955 as "the most satisfactory year for the American worker on record."

An average of 63 million persons were employed during the year and an unprecedented volume of goods and services was produced.

A separate Labour Department report estimated that 4,900 strikes caused 28 million man days of idleness in 1955—nearly 24 per cent above last year's figure but still the third best year since the end of World War II.—Reuter.

## Bomb Injures Soldier

Nicosia, Dec. 29. Terrorists tossed a bomb on to ramparts overlooking riot-scarred Metaxas Square today, injuring one British soldier.

Troops swarmed into the area minutes after the blast and cordoned off the centre of town in a futile search for the terrorist bomb-thrower.

Meanwhile, the Cyprus government officially charged a Greek Orthodox monk with carrying arms, a violation that could bring the death penalty. He was arrested on December 8.

Terrorist leaders distributed throughout the island claimed that 100 British soldiers were killed or wounded in a commando raid on a mountain terrorist hideout. The British reported no casualties in the raid.—United Press.

## ALLEGEDLY ROBBED POLICEMAN

### ACCUSED GIVES EVIDENCE

Evidence of how he was arrested by a Police detective and accused of having taken part in the robbing of Insp. K. H. Wheeler was given by Yeung Chi-yeung, when he testified at his trial before Mr. Justice J. R. Gregg at the Criminal Sessions this morning.

Yeung alleged that when the Police first arrested him, he was told that he had been suspected of returning from banishment, and it was only at the identification parade that he was accused of having taken part in the robbery.

Yeung is jointly charged with another accused, Choy Ching-kung, alias Mr. Tsui, with having robbed Insp. Wheeler of a wrist watch, a cigarette lighter, a pair of tweezers, one Hong-kong dollar in coins, three grammes of heroin and five of barbitone, on August 2.

The offence is said to have taken place while complainant was taking a drug suspect to the Police Station.

Yeung faces an alternative charge of assaulting complainant and occasioning him actual bodily harm.

He is represented by Mr. Brook A. Bernacchi, instructed by Mr. P. C. Woo. Mr. W. S. Collier, Crown Counsel, is prosecuting, assisted by Det. Insp. A. Anderson. Choy is not legally represented.

### ADMITS CONVICTIONS

Yeung testified this morning that he was an unemployed hawk living at No. 14, Second Street, first floor. As a boy, he was convicted on stealing and received the cane. He was convicted again of snatching and served a short sentence of imprisonment. He denied that he had committed the offence for which he was now on trial.

Early in April, Yeung continued, he was arrested in Eastern District in connection with an allegation concerning charging money for people to enter private land. He said he was released on bail in April and the case was heard on September 19, when he was represented by Mr. Bernacchi.

Among the witnesses were two Police detectives, DPC Ho Kai-yun and DPC Liu Wai-hung. At the close of the evidence against him, he said, he was not called upon to offer a defence and was discharged.

Yeung said when he left the Court room, he saw DPC Liu looking at him and nodding his head. He was afraid that he might be arrested again and spoke to his counsel. Mr. Bernacchi then told Yeung to leave the Magistrate with him in his car, taking at the same time another person as a witness of the incident.

Yeung said during the time he was released on bail, he had hawked in the old market in Western district.

### SHOULDER PATTED

At about 2 p.m. on September 20, Yeung, just home from work and joined by his cousin who invited him to tea. As they were walking down Curry Lane to Queen's Road, someone patted him on the shoulder and asked him when he had returned. The person was DPC Ng Hung, Yeung said.

Yeung asked the detective what he meant and Detective Ng said he suspected Yeung of being a returned banished. Yeung said he had a Hongkong birth certificate but Ng refused to go to Yeung's home.

In the Police Station, Yeung was taken to Insp. Anderson and heard Ng telling Insp. Anderson that he (Yeung) had taken part in the robbery.

Yeung said he was then taken to another room where Ng told him not to be afraid and he was only suspected of being a returned banished. He was later taken to the charge room and searched. A short while later, he was taken to an identification parade where he was told by the Police interpreter that he was suspected of taking part in a robbery. He was later identified by the European inspector and the police corporal.

Yeung said when he appeared on remand before a magistrate he had seen Det. Liu on two occasions and Det. Ho on one occasion.

Hearing is continuing.

### On Establishment

H.E. the Governor has approved the confirmation of the following to the permanent and permanent establishment. It was announced in the Government Gazette today: Mr. A. H. Williams (Engineer, PWD), Miss M. R. M. Baxendale (Nursing Sister).

### COAT STOLEN

A lady's coat was stolen from an unattended motor car in Garden Road yesterday. A quantity of spirits and other miscellaneous articles were stolen from an unattended motor car at the Rong Yee Theatre Park yesterday evening.

## Mail Notices

The latest times of postage shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted as G.P.O. parcels. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office. The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel rates can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

**NEW YEAR ARRANGEMENTS**  
On Monday, January 2, 1956, the public counters at G.P.O. for public business from 9 a.m. to noon. The counters will close at 12 noon. The counters will open at 9 a.m. to noon and from 12 noon to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 1956, for the sale of postage stamps only. All other branch offices will be closed. The box offices will open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., showing-wins from 9 a.m. to noon only. There will be no general delivery commanding advance collection from all pillar boxes.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

By Air  
Formosa, 6 p.m.  
Korea, 6 p.m.  
U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.  
Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain and Europe, 6 p.m.  
Japan, 6 p.m.

By Surface  
Australia, New Zealand, 3 p.m.  
New Zealand, 3 p.m.  
Macao, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

By Air  
Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, Kuming, 10 a.m.  
Korea, 6 p.m.  
Thailand, India, Pakistan, Australia, New Zealand & Ceylon, 6 p.m.

By Surface  
Indo-China, Noon.  
Philippines, 1 p.m.  
Thailand, India, Pakistan, New Zealand, 1 p.m.  
Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.  
Formosa, Japan, Okinawa, Korea, 6 p.m.  
U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.  
Macao, 6 p.m.

By Surface  
Formosa, 8 a.m.  
U.S.A., Canada, 10.30 a.m.  
Macao, 1 p.m.

By Air  
China, People's Republic, 8 p.m.  
Macao, 6 p.m.  
U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.

By Surface  
Formosa, 8 a.m.  
U.S.A., Canada, 10.30 a.m.  
Macao, 1 p.m.

By Air  
China, People's Republic, 8 p.m.  
Macao, 6 p.m.  
U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.

By Surface  
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U.S.A., Canada, 10.30 a.m.  
Macao, 1 p.m.

By Air  
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By Surface  
Formosa, 8 a.m.  
U.S.A., Canada, 10.30 a.m.  
Macao, 1 p.m.

## GALA SEASON - GALA GOWNS

Just unpacked an exquisite collection of **GLAMOROUS GALA MODELS** for your **BONAFIDE CHOICE**. To greet your Holiday parties with such a glamorous gown, you'll certainly be admitted as the **QUEEN** in your party. **COME TO MODE ELITE**.

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Imported fabulous mink clutch of **EXCELLENCE** lavishly glamorous for atop your gowns only costs — **\$1,200** net see them at

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